FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Vol V No 153 *10 August 1987*

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LD101343 [Editorial Report]

Iran

Berlin Expulsions — Ten Iranian citizens were expelled from Berlin by the Western Allies "in agreement with the Allies' responsibilities for the internal security of Berlin," Hamburg DPA reported 8 August. The affected Iranians, who include several employees of the Iranian Consulate General in West Berlin, were said to come from "both sides" of Berlin, DPA stated.

Mecca Incident — In a 7 August address reported by IRNA, Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi said Iran's "first encounter" to avenge the deaths of Hajj pilgrims at Mecca "will be against the United States." Mohtashemi said that the "blood of Iran's martyred pilgrims would make the unity of the Islamic ummah bloom and bring down U.S. agents in most countries." Head of the Iranian hajj pilgrims Mahdi Karrubi said the Mecca incident was "coldbloodedly plotted" and that "Saudi officials had promised to cooperate with us," IRNA reported 8 August. Karrubi said he would remain in Mecca "until all Iranian pilgrims are transferred to Iran," the IRNA report stated.

Meanwhile, a Saudi Interior Ministry spokesman denied Iranian allegations that Saudi authorities were slowing down the return of bodies by delivering them in three planeloads instead of one, SPA reported 8 August. The spokesman said it was Iran that had requested three planes "from the beginning" and suggested that the extended transfer operation had been engineered by Iran's leaders "with a view to arousing the emotions of the Iranian people," SPA noted.

'Martyrdom' Maneuvers — President 'Ali Khamene'i witnessed the final stages of the "Martyrdom" naval maneuvers aboard a warship 7 August, IRNA reported. Khamene'i remarked that Iranian naval forces are capable of confronting "any invasion" in the Gulf, IRNA stated. Commenting on the presence of a French fleet in Gulf waters, Khamene'i said that all frigates are free in international waters as long as they do not involve themselves in "adventurism," but that if ships attempted to create "tension" in the region, there would be "clashes," according to the IRNA report.

Oil Exports to USSR — Talks between Iran and the USSR have been held on the use of a Soviet gas pipeline for the daily transfer of 700,000 barrels of oil from Iran to Baku and the Black Sea, Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh said in a Tehran radio report 8 August.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi aircraft delivered "devastating" and "destructive" blows to Iranian oil installations in Tabriz and Gachsaran, Voice of the Masses radio reported in a 10 August military communique. In an earlier report, IRNA stated that "two industrial units" in the same regions were damaged in an Iraqi air raid and that several workers were killed. A commentary carried by Tehran radio accused Iraq of starting a "new round of conspiracies and atrocities."

The start of "Fath-9" operations with the participation of Kurdish rebel forces inside the Iraqi province of Al-Sulaymaniyah was announced by Tehran radio in a 9 August communique. Tehran radio reported that its forces came within sight of the Iraqi city of Khurmal, while two enemy supply roads, the Khurmal-Sayyid Sadiq road and the Khurmal-Halabjah road, "came under observation" and sustained "direct fire" during the new operations. Meanwhile, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied reports of military operations in the Khurmal area, asserting that "the situation in all border villages is stable and calm."

On other battlefronts, an Iraqi military spokesman denied Iran's claim, cited by Tehran radio, that its forces downed an Iraqi fighter over the "Nasr-7" operational region, according to INA. Iraq also denied an Iranian claim that its warplanes bombed the outskirts of Sardasht 9 August, INA reported. In another development, an IRNA report claiming that two Iraqi helicopters were downed in Sardasht 8 August were characterized as "groundless" by an Iraqi military spokesman, INA reported.

Libya-Chad

Chadian soldiers liberated the town of Aozou from Libyan troops 8 August, according to a FANT communique carried by Ndjamena radio. The communique noted that FANT forces were able to defeat a "sizable Libyan column" that attacked in the Bardai area. The radio reported 10 August that Libyan warplanes, which began "intensive and uninterrupted bombings" on Aozou and its environs the previous day, are continuing their attacks with "rockets, fragmentation bombs, and napalm bombs."

Tripoli radio announced 9 August that Chadian and "imperialist" forces had attacked "inside Libyan territory." The radio also carried the text of messages to the UN Security Council and the OAU which accuse Chad of "military aggression" along Libya's "southern international borders." In a telephone call to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi expressed "the determination of the great Jamahiriyah to repulse this aggression and eliminate its source," JANA reported.

Lebanon

Israeli Attacks — Israeli helicopter gunships scored "accurate hits" on a "terrorist command post" near Tibnin 9 August, Jerusalem radio reported, noting that the target building was used by organizations which cooperate with Hizballah against the IDF and the SLA. According to Beirut radio, Israeli helicopters also attacked the areas of Haris and Kafra 8 August. The "faithful resistance" vowed to strike civilian and military targets in the "occupied territories" if Israel continues its "aggressive policy," in a statement reported by Beirut radio. The statement also claimed credit for firing 122-mm rockets against Israel 10 August. According to Jerusalem radio, responsibility for the Katyusha attack, which caused no casualties or damage, was assumed by the "National Syrian Socialist Party in Lebanon." South Lebanese sources told IDF Radio that the Amal movement was responsible.

Government Organization — In a 10 August meeting, Joseph al-Hashim, minister of posts and public health, urged President Amin al-Jumayyil to consider forming a new government, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, adding that Al-Hashim voiced his opinion that governmental power and credibility have been "seriously eroded." According to an 8 August report by Beirut radio which cited a "decree issued recently," Al-Hashim is expected to assume responsibility for the Ministries of Finance, Housing, and Cooperatives, portfolios previously held by the late Camille Sham'un.

Israel

Protest to Egypt — The office of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir "sharply protested" a speech to the OAU by Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state, who reportedly compared Israel to South Africa and alleged that Israel's treatment of the Palestinians demonstrates that the country is racist, Jerusalem television disclosed 9 August. According to an earlier report by Jerusalem radio, the government has also informed Cairo of its "dissatisfaction" over Egypt's failure to "express reservations" regarding an "anti-Israeli resolution" passed at the OAU.

Knesset Support for Lavi — The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and the Finance Committee meeting in joint session 9 August voted to recommend that the government continue its support for the Lavi project, Jerusalem radio announced. While Prime Minister Shamir reportedly reiterated his support for the Lavi, "defense establishment sources" cited by the radio pointed out that continuing the project will have a "negative effect" on relations with the United States.

Al-Qadhdhafi Reportedly Calls for PNC Meeting

LD090852 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0750 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Dubayy, 9 Aug (KUNA) — The Dubayy-based newspaper *Al-Bayan* reported today that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has called for the holding of a PNC meeting in Tripoli on 3 September. It adds that the intent behind this invitation is "to draw up a final plan for Palestinian national unity and to find a way out of the current Palestinian impasse."

According to the paper, invitations have already been sent to a number of independent Palestinian personalities to attend this conference. It will also be attended by representatives from resistance groups in Damascus.

Al-Bayan reports that the meeting will discuss in great detail the Tripoli document, a plan for the creation of a salvation front, in addition to the popular struggle front initiative. The conferees will also discuss other documents pertaining to Palestinian unity with a view to drawing up common ground for national unity in the Palestinian arena.

PLO's 'Arafat Receives USSR Envoy in Tunis

LD081932 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander-in-chief of the Palestine Revolution Armed Forces, has received the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tunis. They discussed the latest developments taking place in the region.

Fatah Central Committee Resumes Meetings

JN091950 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] In the presence of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], the Fatah Central Committee has resumed its meetings. The Central Committee discussed several issues related to the Palestinianquestion and the Palestinian people's conditions within and outside the occupied territory. They particularly reviewed the escalation in the Zionist terrorist campaign against our people's uprising against the occupiers and their policy. The committee also discussed the continuation of the Zionist aggression against our people's camps in Lebanon and the Zionist military preparations to carry out further aggression against these camps. The Fatah Central Committee discussed the Middle East situation in general, as well as developments in this regard in the Arab and international arenas.

Fatah's 'Abbas on Conference, Ties With Arabs

PM071459 London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 1 Aug 87 pp 21, 22

[Interview with Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, Fatah Central Committee member and PLO Executive Committee member, by Rashid Khashanah in Tunis; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Khashanah] In the next stage of events, the PLO will have to face the task of formulating a position with regard to the international conference. How will the PLO deal with this question?

['Abbas] The PLO has already more than once declared its support and blessing for the idea of an international conference since it was first launched in the form of various initiatives, including the Soviet initiative. Our position continues to be the same. However,we will only accept a solution through an international conference to be attended by the two superpowers and the parties concerned with the conflict, including the PLO on equal footing with the other parties. Then a development occurred with regard to the idea of an international conference, which we also supported; namely, that the conference should be attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council to ensure that there would be more guarantees. [passage omitted]

[Khashanah] How will the PLO Executive Committee deal with the Arab states, especially the Frontline states in which major Palestinian communities reside, in view of the closure of its offices in these states?

['Abbas] We admit that there are differences with Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon. If such differences continue, there will certainly be no international conference. An international conference requires a minimum of Arab solidarity. For our part, we extend our hand to Egypt and say that we are ready to coordinate with them. We have informed them through a statement by the Executive Committee that this is our opinion of the Egyptian-Palestinian relationship and that this is our method of working toward convening an international conference. We have heard more than once that the Egyptians support Palestinian rights and the PLO, the sole representative of the Palestinian people. There also remain other issues which we can discuss and reach agreement on with regard to Palestinian representation. We see that we either go [to the conference] within an independent delegation or within a joint Arab delegation. As for Palestinian-Egyptian differences, they have no justification since our Egyptian brothers understood the PNC resolutions to be targeted at Egypt. In fact, not a single word, insult, or harm was targeted at Egypt. [passage omitted] As for Jordan, there was an agreement between us, but the Jordanian Government stopped it. We are ready to agree with Jordan on a new basis. If there is an intention to hold a Palestinian-Jordanian meeting, we are completely ready to meet with them to discuss everything once again at the negotiating table.

[Khashanah] Has there been any progress in this direction?

['Abbas] So far there has been no progress. However, we hope that this will take place in the future. Now there remains Syria, with which we have many problems. Syria has sponsored divi-

sions in the PLO, supported the Amal Movement, and backed it in the camps fighting. Despite this, we are seeking a mutual, natural, and balanced relationship with Syria in the sense that it will not interfere in our internal affairs. We are ready to coordinate with it regarding the international conference, which it calls for. We are not in disagreement with Syria over its declared policy, which indicates that it is on the side of an international conference and of the PLO and Palestinian rights. So what do we disagree on? We are ready to agree on a formula involving these points and issues. As for existing differences with it in Lebanon or elsewhere, these can be resolved. We have also indicated in a statement issued by the Executive Committee that we have a delegation ready should Syria wish to hold talks with us. We are ready to hold a dialogue to achieve Arab solidarity. As for the Lebanese issue, the situation at present is very difficult. The Lebanese Government needs support. We cannot now hold talks with the government about an international conference because it is busy with domestic and foreign issues. Therefore, it cannot think about this subject. [passage omitted]

FANT Captures Aozou in Fighting With Libyan Forces

AFP: Aozou Town Seized

NC082049 Paris AFP in English 2046 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 8 (AFP) — Chadian troops have seized the town of Aozou, in the Libyan-occupied Aozou Strip in northern Chad, it was announced in the Chadian capital late Saturday [8 August].

Libya, maintaining that the Strip is Libyan territory, has occupied the area militarily since 1973.

Communique Issued on Action

AB082246 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 2030 GMT 8 Aug 87

["Communique No 65" issued by the FANT High Command on 8 August in Ndjamena following the announcement of Aozou's fall; read by Major Ganebang Zamtato, FANT 1st deputy commander — live or recorded]

[Text] This morning, 8 August 1987, a sizeable Libyan column attacked FANT forces stationed in the Bardai region and [word indistinct]. Violent combat ensued between the courageous and unyielding freedom fighters and the Tripoli fascist and expansionist regime's (?bloodthirsty) and barbaric soldiery. Since the invaders could not continue their fight in the face of the FANT's determination and heroism, they began to flee. However, the freedom fighters continued to resolutely oppose the aggressors, which resulted in the liberation of the martyred town of Aozou.

Yes, Chadian people, the martyred town of Aozou, whose name [words indistinct] heart of each and every Chadian. Aozou recovered on this day — a day that will never be forgotten — its freedom and its dignity.

Yes, with Aozou's liberation and with this historic act, dhe FANT, on this day of 'Id al-Adha, offered the most [word indistinct], beautiful, and greatest gift to the nation. More than ever before, the Chadian people's mobilization is necessary to achieve total and final victory.

Long live the FANT! Long live Chad!

Aozou's 'Liberation' Announced

AB082133 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 2005 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Concerning the important communique we have been announcing for some time now, Togoi Hamadi Moumine, the secretary of state at the Republic's presidency responsible for information and guidance, provides highlights of this communique:

[Moumine] Valiant Chadian people, free fighters and soldiers, free men of Chad: This afternoon, the Republic of Chad recovered its 1,284,000 square km. The news reached us this afternoon. The Chadian administrative post of Aozou has at last been freed by the FANT. Aozou, the [words indistinct] of the Republic of Chad, has just fallen to the Chadian Government after 14 years of illegal occupation. A great page of our country's history has just been turned, a page, it must be stressed, that has remained dark for 14 years.

The barbaric troops of Tripoli are at this very moment suffering a total defeat on Chadian soil. Who told them to attack a large portion of our territory? The Libyan occupation army has just been completely brought to its knees, as has Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who has deceived the Libyan people since 1969. The colonel of Tripoli [words indistinct] by attempting militarily [words indistinct] to go straight toward [word indistinct]. He did not wish to hear the language of reason coming from the Ndjamena government led by President Hissein Habre.

In any event, history will judge the behavior, and the megalomaniacal excesses, of the Libyan leader.

The FANT, the Chadian Government, and the entire Chadian people (?have not been at war). They possess, as the leadership has many times repeated, a strong determination to liberate the territory occupied by a neighboring country. This moment will never be forgotten by the Libyan regime, and this liberation will be a great victory for Africa and the entire world.

Al-Qadhdhafi's forces are henceforth out of our country.

Fighting people of the Republic of Chad, valiant fighters of the Republic, Aozou has been freed for you today. Aozou, this region that [words indistinct], this region that has been wrongly described as a strip, even though it is larger than many African nations. Aozou, with its 114,000 square km, is full of considerable mineral wealth — primarily uranium — that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi wished to use to satisfy his ambition of becoming one of the nations capable of manufacturing nuclear weapons. This dream has been shattered by the great FANT since this afternoon.

(?Chadian people) [words indistinct], valor has overcome the forces of evil. All the efforts made by the Chadian people have overcome the forces of evil. Through the liberation of Aozou, it is the entire African Continent that has been freed from gangrene, that is, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The Chadian people in the Aozou region have finally recovered their freedom. (?They can now breathe) the air of freedom and fraternity with all their fellow countrymen, and Chad has at last recovered its 1,284,000 square km. The Chadian people salute the heroism of the (?Chadian forces), which have just proven to the African and international public that freedom for a determined nation and people is priceless.

The fatherland will note [words indistinct] forever.

'Libyan Attack' Detailed

AB091650 Paris AFP in French 1625 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Paris, 9 August (AFP) — Libyan aircraft this morning began bombing Chadian forces that have just captured the

locality of Aozou (extreme north of Chad) as well as their positions in the Tibesti, Chadian Ambassador to Paris Ahmad Allam-Mi stated. "These bombing attacks are intense and continuous," he told AFP.

The ambassador also stated that the Libyan attack on Saturday [8 August] against Bardai and Omchi, "employing 2,000 to 3,000 men," had commenced at 0900. "Our forces immediately counterattacked, chasing the attackers out of their positions and throwing them into disarray. We destroyed eight of their positions before penetrating into Aozou at nightfall," he added. [passage omitted]

Envoy Comments on Recapture

AB091122 Paris AFP in French 1005 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Paris, 9 Aug (AFP) — The Chadian Army yesterday in Ndjamena officially announced that it had yesterday captured the locality of Aozou in the far north of Chad. This locality has now stood as the symbol of Libyan military intervention in Chad for almost 15 years.

The communique broadcast yesterday by Chadian Army Headquarters speaks of the "liberation of the martyred town of Aozou," meaning that the Chadian Army has not captured the important air base built by the Libyans (?in the seventies) some 90 km north of the locality (very close to the border being contested by the two countries). [passage omitted]

The tally of the Aozou battle, which followed a 4-month tacit truce, was still not known as of the morning of 9 August. It is also not known whether the Chadian Army was continuing its offensive toward the air base. [passage omitted]

Also, the Chadian authorities have until now not given any indication concerning the attitude of the three Libyan colonies, estimated at 3,000 men, concentrated in Sudan's Darfur Province, not far from the Sudanese-Chadian border, near the locality of Demtinsk. [as received] [passage omitted]

The Aozou battle is a "great victory in the process for liberating the national territory," Chadian Ambassador to Paris [Ahmad] Allam-Mi told AFP today. "But the war is not over. It will continue," he stated, "as long as Libya does not recognize Chadian borders inherited from colonization. Therefore, we must remain vigilant."

The ambassador recalled that his country, "like France, has always supported a peaceful settlement of the conflict, a process that Libya, with its obstinance, has always torpedoed."

Finally, answering a question, the ambassador pointed out: "France, as in the past, did not participate in the latest fighting."

Further Allam-Mi Remarks

LD091413 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Excerpts] The news that the FANT yesterday recaptured Aozou has been greeted in Ndjamena with an explosion of joy. [passage omitted] To learn more about this and about what could happen next, we have invited Chadian Ambassador to Paris Ahmad Allam-Mi to speak with journalist Michel Barthelemy:

[Begin recording] [Barthelemy] Mr Ambassador, thank you for coming to the studio. What is the latest news from the frontline; are the Chadian forces continuing their offensive?

[Allam-Mi] The FANT have controlled Aozou town since yesterday afternoon. They also control almost the whole of the Aozou Strip. As you know, Aozou is a desert area. Once the village of Aozou has been liberated, in practical terms there is very little else left. The Libyan Army is in disarray, while we are in the (?final) phase.

[Barthelemy] If we go back in time a bit, Mr Ambassador, who took the initiative here? Was this a Libyan initiative or was it a counterattack?

[Allam-Mi] No, I object to those who want people to believe that Chad took the initiative in attacking Aozou. As we stated a week ago, the Libyans prepared their offensive — their revenge against Chad — by building up their forces in the extreme north around Aozou, and in the east through Sudan via Darfur, with a view to attacking us. We denounced these preparations and then prepared ourselves. Yesterday at 0900 the Libyan Army attacked a Chadian position near Bardai. The Chadian counteroffensive was very swift and ended with the liberation of both the Aozou Strip and of Aozou town, a matryrs' town that had been forcibly occupied by the Libyans since 1973.

[Barthelemy] Did you at least inform France of the measures you were taking in the north?

[Allam-Mi] As soon as Libyan preparations began, we alerted all friendly countries, and particularly France. Since yesterday, as soon as hostilities began, we have kept all our friends informed minute by minute, including France. We have nothing to hide from our friends, especially since France has a large force in the country — it must be admitted it is a deterrent force, Operation Epervier — that is playing an important and decisive role in liberating the country, which we began some 6 months ago.

[Barthelemy] But did this force play any part in the recapture of Aozou?

[Allam-Mi] No. France — the French Army — has never taken a direct part in the fighting. France has effectively given us material support and has performed a deterrent role, if only by the presence of Operation Epervier. [passage omitted]

[Barthelemy] Mr Ambassador, is your country trying to present the OAU with a fait accompli and prove that a military solution is possible whereas a political solution has turned out to be impossible?

[Allami-Mi] We are not trying to present anyone with a fait accompli. Libya has presented us with yet another opportunity to teach it a lesson. This is what happened, as it happened at Ouadi Doum, Fada, and Faya. We support peace between the two countries, between the two peoples. We are prepared to sign a treaty of nonaggression and good-neighborly relations with Libya. However, quite frankly, out interlocutor is not easy to deal with, and it is very difficult to get along with Al-Qadhdhafi's unpredictable regime. [end recording]

Citizens Warned on Shootings

AB082220 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 2020 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Communique issued by the FANT High Command on 8 August in Ndjamena following the announcement of the capture of the Aozou military post; read by unidentified official — live or recorded]]

[Text] Anxious to save the lives of the Chadian people, the FANT High Command hereby requests all soldiers and other persons possessing firearms to fire them in the air to avoid the accidents we witnessed when Fada and Ouadi Doum were recently captured.

Aozou's Recapture Celebrated

AB092131 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Aozou has been freed. We stated a short while ago that the whole nation is overcome with joy. To show their happiness over Aozou's liberation, the people in Ndjamena this morning organized a mammoth march in support of the FANT and their supreme commander, President El Hadj Habre.

This morning, Independence Square was filled with the militants of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR], who took to the streets to celebrate Aozou's liberation. Several thousand people took to the streets and demonstrated the capacity of Chadians to mobilize themselves. They walked long distances shouting slogans and carrying placards with inscriptions such as "Chad is for Chadians" and "Chad has regained its 1,284,000 square km." [passage omitted]

Four weeks ago, President El Hadj Hissein Habre predicted Aozou's liberation, which would then enable our country to [words indistinct]. At that time, El Hadj Hissein Habre denounced some of our fellow countrymen's lack of faith, countrymen who doubted the FANT's ability to expel the invaders. [passage omitted] However, following Aozou's liberation and our fighting forces' great victory, the Chadian people must not rest on their laurels. It is a time for vigilance and mobilization. [passage omitted]

Members of the government, the National Consultative Council, and the UNIR Central Committee; ambassadors; and representatives of organizations accredited to our nation occupied the officials' stand on Independence Square. [passage omitted].

Libyan Air Operations Against Aozou Detailed

Air Strikes Begin 9 Aug

AU091621 Paris AFP in English 1611 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Paris, Aug 9 (AFP) — Libyan warplanes on Sunday [9 August] bombed Chadian forces, who on Saturday seized the Libyan-held town of Aozou in northern Chad, the Chadian ambassador here said.

Ambassador Ahmad Allam-Mi said the "intense and continuous" bombing, which started Sunday morning was also directed against Chadian forces in the Tibesti region to the southwest. [passage omitted]

Bombing Continues

AB091801 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1745 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Statement issued by the FANT High Command on 9 August in Ndjamena]

[Text] Since this morning, 9 August 1987, the despairing enemy, following its crushing defeat, has embarked upon intensive and uninterrupted bombing of the town of Aozou and its surrounding villages.

In its vain attempt to break the ranks of our enterprising soldiers, the Libyan Air Force has blindly dropped rockets and napalm fragmentation bombs on the people in the liberated zones. This (?frustrated action) of the enemy, which is in a desperate position, has only strengthened the Chadian people's determination to rid themselves of Libyan occupation.

Air Strikes Extend Into 10 Aug

AB101138 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] The enemy certainly has lost strength in the face of our patriotic forces' determination. However, the Libyans, as expected, are charging back and are shamelessly bombing the town of Aozou and its surroundings. Since yesterday, 9 August 1987, the desperate enemy, following its crushing defeat, has undertaken intensive and uninterrupted bombings of Aozou town and its surrounding villages.

In its vain attempt to break off the dash of our intrepid fighting forces, the Libyan Air Force is blindly attacking the liberated areas' inhabitants with rockets, fragmentation bombs, and napalm bombs.

In the face of this fresh onslaught by the enemy, the Chadian people are only strengthened in their determination to counter the Libyan aggression.

In the face of this Libyan barbarism, therefore, Chad calls on the international community to assume its responsibilities.

Commentary Assails Foreign Press, Sudanese Role

AB081142 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Libya is preparing for new attacks against our country but the [words indistinct] in the northern and eastern parts of our nation is not taken seriously by the international press. This media is in need of sensational news and has wished to transform Chad into the aggressor party. Our colleagues are thus knowingly closing their eyes to the truth.

The first fact is that Chad is not the aggressor country. In trying to free the Aozou administrative post, internationally known as having always belonged to the Republic of Chad, our nation is not seeking to attack Libya. Therefore, any assertion to the contrary is very stupid. Also, Tripoli's intentions toward Chad have been known (?by all) since 1973. Therefore, any Chadian action to liberate the Aozou Strip can only be legitimate.

Al-Qadhdhafi, who is rushing into Chad like a skunk without any prey, forgets that his actions clearly remind us that a soldier without any political training is only a criminal in power. Al-Qadhdhafi's barbaric activities in the northern region of our nation are enough to demonstrate the reality of the annexationist aims of the old crocodile on Libya's political scene. The verbal outbursts of the Libyan gang leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, on the Chad-Libya conflict are edifying.

The second truth is the role of the Sudanese regime in Libya's aggression against Chad. Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister of that nation, is clearly demonstrating to the world his inability to manage Sudan's affairs. Not only is he unfit due to his policy on restoring internal security in the face of [SPLA leader] John Garang's relentless rebellion, but he also dares to harbor Libyan troops for an eventual military offensive against Chad. And yet, Khartoum maintains an embassy in Ndjamena, capital of the Republic of Chad, a country being attacked by Libya. Curiously enough, Sadiq al-Mahdi closes his eyes as prime minister to the presence of Libyan forces on his nation's territory. This is a presence that had been openly denounced by the local press and some Sudanese parliamentarians. The tactics of the Tripoli group and the Sadiq al-Madhi government consist of camouflaging the aggression under the cover of a technical humanitarian activity. This is only a masquerade that for several months now has been denounced by the Chadian Government.

As for relations between Ndjamena and Khartoum, it will be better to reexamine them in order to (?prepare for) the future.

As one Chadian official told us one day while discussing the dark cloud between Chad and Sudan, diplomacy is one thing and reality is another. That is it.

The third point is the movement of Libyan forces in Chad's northern and eastern regions. It is not a strengthening of forces at the level of Aozou [words indistinct] of Libyan soldiers. Bases in the Libyan localities of Kufrah and Ma'tan as Sarra have been strengthened to support the Libyan positions on Chadian territory. The Libyans are surely further south than the Aozou Strip; to be precise, they are around Bardai. This displays the clear desire of Tripoli to resume its debauchery [words indistinct], its defeats from Fada to Faya-Largeau. This resulted in the torpedoing of negotiations between the (?allied) GUNT and the Chadian Government. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is exhibiting his disrespect for the OAU and (?persists) by recruiting mercenaries from Benin, in particular, in order to attack Chad.

Finally, in the face of all these facts, we can only be astonished by the complacency of the foreign press. The Chadian Government will also continue to gather all its sons in honor and dignity and the FANT will recover Chad's rights, even if this does not please certain people.

Envoy to Paris on 'Concessions' to Goukouni

AU071854 Paris AFP in English 1835 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Paris, Aug 7 (AFP) — Libya is making "serious preparations" to attack Chad by massing troops and armour in the extreme north of the country, backed up by a "veritable fleet" of bomber aircraft, the Chadian ambassador to France charged here Friday. [passage omitted]

Observers had been wrong to interpret the call for vigilance made in the Chadian capital Wednesday [5 August] as a "pretext" for an offensive by Chadian forces, Mr. Allami-Mi said. [passage omitted]

"Our duty and our right is to prepare ourselves for a Libyan offensive, even if we still give priority to a negotiated settlement" of the Chadian conflict, he said.

Where negotiations were concerned, "serious concessions" have already been made to Goukouni Oueddei, a principal opponent of Mr. Habre's government in Ndjamena, explained the ambassador.

Mr. Habre had agreed that Mr. Goukouni, former head of the Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT) could sign a national reconciliation accord as "head of the Chadian opposition," Mr. Allami-Mi said,

"We have also agreed that the date of June 7, 1982 should not figure in the preamble to" the provisional constitution, he added.

This was the date on which Mr. Habre, once prime minister in Mr. Goukouni's government, took power in Ndjamena at the head of his National Chadian Armed Forces (FANT).

Mr. Goukouni has also been invited to participate in the preparation of a new constitution, the ambassador said.

"Finally, his fighters have been integrated into FANT, as he requested," added Mr. Allami-Mi.

"Yet Mr. Goukouni Oueddei clearly lacks the political will to reach an agreement," the ambassador said. "His threat to take to arms again does therefore not surprise us, but nor does it alarm us."

French officials, interviewed in Paris Thursday, confirmed that Libya had brought more troops into northern Chad and laid mines in the Aozou Strip, which was occupied by Libya in 1973.

Also on Thursday, the Chadian Government radio station warned Sudan of "ambiguities" in its stance towards Libya that could provoke a "reaction" from Chad.

Mr. Habre has repeatedly declared that he intends to recover the "totality" of Chadian territory.

GUNT's Goukouni Comments on Aozou, Reconciliation

AB091727 Paris AFP in French 1649 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Algiers, 9 Aug (AFP) — GUNT President Goukouni Oueddei today told AFP that whoever "took the initiative to attack Aozou (an area claimed by both Libya and Chad) will assume responsibility for what happens in that region." Contacted by telephone in Algiers, where he is currently residing, Mr Goukouni declined to make any further comment. He stated that the "distance from actual areas of combat does not allow for a precise understanding of what is happening" in the Aozou Strip.

When asked about the forces on the spot in the Aozou Strip, Mr Goukouni replied, without being more precise, that "one should not exclude the possibility" of the presence of foreign forces on the side of Chadian Government forces. The GUNT leader also stated that Aozou's capture does not "resolve the national reconciliation problem in Chad." The two issues "are not related," he noted, adding that these developments will not have any influence on relations between the GUNT and Libya. He added that the GUNT and Libya continue their "contacts, which is quite normal between two neighbors." The Chadian problem should be resolved by "national reconciliation, and then the issue of the Aozou Strip can be settled through diplomatic channels," Mr Goukouni further pointed out.

The Chadian opposition leader also stated that dialogue for reconciliation in Chad cannot continue "as long as Ndjamena does not display the political will to negotiate." [passage omitted]

Neo-GUNT Claims FANT Lauched Aozou 'Aggression'

AB101054 Paris AFP in French 1011 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Paris, 10 Aug (AFP) — The Libyan Air Force resumed bombing operations early this morning over the locality of Aozou (in the extreme northwest of Chad) — occupied since 8 August by Chadian President Hissein Habre's forces — as well as over many of their positions in the Tibesti Mountains, it was learned here today from Chadian sources. The Libyan aircraft, which had already carried out "intensive and ceaseless" bombing raids on Sunday, are employing "fragmentation and napalm bombs," the same sources stated. [passage omitted]

The Neo-GUNT, the pro-Libyan opposition headed by Acheikh ibn Oumar, told AFP today in a telephone call from Tripoli that the locality of Aozou was "unoccupied" when attacked by Chadian forces and that it was Chadian forces that had perpetrated an aggression against Libyan forces. The Neo-GUNT appealed to France and the United States to abstain from "becoming involved in this conflict, which Ndjamena is responsible for."

Sources on Terms for Mubarak, Husayn U.S. Visits

NC071218 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo, *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* office — *AL-Sharq al-Awsat* has learned from informed sources in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry that the date of President Husni Mubarak's visit to the United States has not yet been decided. The visit had been scheduled for early next year but was postponed by agreement between Cairo and Washington despite the fact that the U.S. Administration has informed Egypt through the U.S. ambassador in Cairo that the invitation is still valid.

These sources have affirmed that setting a date for President Mubarak's visit to Washington is linked with a tangible change in the U.S. position on the convocation of an international peace conference, the establishment of a U.S.-Palestinian dialogue to help boost peace efforts, and a response to Egypt's demands that the interest rate on military debts be reduced.

Diplomatic reports in Cairo note the existence of Egyptian-Jordanian coordination between President Mubarak and King Husayn with regard to visits to Washington, particularly since the Jordanian monarch has decided not to visit Washington because of its arms supplies to Iran and its refusal to supply Jordan with certain arms and ammunition.

Mubarak Receives Message From Saudi King Fahd

NC091259 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received a message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia today. Abu Bakr al-Rafi', the Saudi charge d'affaires in Cairo, conveyed the message to Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The Saudi charge d'affaires said that the message expresses the thanks and appreciation of the Saudi Government and people for Egypt's stance on the events which took place in Mecca prior to 'Id al-Adha and for Egypt's denunciation of these incidents.

Ghali Denounces Threats to Chadian Government

NC081318 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that the Foreign Ministry is closely following the threats to which Chad is being subjected. The ministry most strongly denounces any attempt to harm the territorial integrity of the Republic of Chad or any attack on Chadian provinces, whether from the north or east, where the foreign forces threatening aggression are positioned.

Dr Ghali affirmed Egypt's full support for the legitimate government in Ndjamena and for Chad's right to territorial integrity and sovereignty over all its territories.

36 African Muslim Students Arrested at Al-Azhar

NC090520 Paris AFP in English 0506 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, Aug 9 (AFP) — Egyptian police arrested 36 African Islamic fundamentalist students Friday after violent demonstrations at Cairo's Al-Azhar Islamic University, the semi-official Cairo daily *Al-Ahram* reported Sunday.

The students were demanding larger grants from the Egyptian Government, better lodgings and changes to their study programmes. Students Sunday confirmed the number of arrests.

Students from Senegal, Zaire, Burundi, Comoros, Guinea and the Ivory Coast were among those arrested, students said.

Al-Ahram said the demonstrations started after prayers on Friday, and that the riot squad was called in to break them up after students ransacked an administrative office and the university restaurant.

Students said the "security forces intervened very violently in a peaceful demonstration," seriously injuring some students.

Riot police were patrolling the university city Saturday night, a correspondent said, while several hundred students chanted and made speeches.

There are some 1,500 African students at Al-Azhar University, a third of all the foreign students there. They receive grants of 24 Egyptian pounds each (around 11 dollars at official exchange rates).

Abu Ghazalah Interviewed on Military Policy

NC080505 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2105 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA) — Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has affirmed that Egypt's security policy during Husni Mubarak's presidency rests on the scientific and practical bases of a profound understanding of the characteristics of the world in which our affiliation is to Egypt alone. He said: When we plan for our national security, we take into consideration the fact that we must be capable of confronting any potential threat against us. Thus, any force or activity that affects the state's stability affects, in turn, our national security.

In an interview with *Akhbar al-Yawm*, Marshal Abu Ghazalah described the development of the Egyptian Armed Forces over the last 6 years. He declared: Egyptian military strategy must be based on two main principles: military balance in relation to surrounding countries and deterrence.

In the interview, which will be published by the paper tomorrow, the defense minister asserted: If we are to maintain a military balance with the countries around us, our modern Egyptian forces must be sufficiently strong in relation to our neighbors' capabilities. We must also achieve a qualitative balance and a high degree of maneuverability. As for deterrence, this can be accomplished if we are able to convince all the parties around us that any attempt to encroach on us will prove costly. Marshal

Abu Ghazalah told the paper that Egypt's security policy and military strategy have been transformed into a purely military policy designed to preserve the independence of the state, the safety of its territory, and the security of its borders, coasts, territorial waters, and economic interests. Adherence to the peace accords is also part of this military policy, he stated, so that this peace may be utilized to build and equip the Egyptian Armed Forces, raise performance standards in the fields of armaments, instruction, training, and technology, ensure the safety of shipping in the Red Sea, assert Egypt's role in the Arab, African, and Islamic worlds, develop war production, and keep the production wheel turning in order to minimize reliance on foreign production and strengthen political independence.

Abu Ghazalah noted that Egypt's policy on weapons procurement since the October war can be seen in the diversification of its sources of armaments supply. Weapons are being chosen in accordance with local conditions and possible hostilities, he said. We are now, and have been for the last 6 years, doing our utmost, in full coordination with the production sector and with the Arab Commission for Manufacturing and National Industries, as well as with friendly countries, to promote and develop our technological capabilities in the military field, he asserted.

The Egyptian defense minister affirmed that the diversification of sources of weapons supply for the Armed Forces has led to the promotion of war production and industry. This has been done, he said, by refraining from importing material that can be produced locally, even if at a higher cost; by supporting factories with military expertise and promoting war production by investing in them; by encouraging the manufacture of products which have no industrial base with a view to establishing a production base for items such as tanks, vision equipment, and radar; by expanding armament industries; and by designating certain factories for the repair and overhaul of some of the armament systems and the manufacture of spare parts.

Marshal Abu Ghazalah gave examples of some of the high-performance equipment that has been manufactured in Egypt, such as the Alpha jet, Gazelle, and Tucano aircraft, artillery of all calibers, light-, medium- and heavy-caliber machineguns, all types of small weapons, tactical rockets and their launchers, antitank rockets, antiaircraft missiles, armored vehicles, jeeps, trucks, artillery munitions, communications, radar, vision, laser, fire control, aiming and sighting equipment, mines, chemical warfare equipment, and the Ramses-2 tank.

The defense minister spoke about the Egyptian Armed Forces' performance in the last 6 years. He declared that their weaponry, training, preparation, and combat readiness are better than they were during the 1973 war. These forces have literally become a modern mechanized army, capable of deterring any aggression, he stated.

Reportage on Chadian Military Action in Aozou

Forces Attack 'Inside Territory'

LD091240 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] The forces of agent Habre, with the help of the imperialist forces, have attacked the Aozou region inside the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's territory.

UN Informed of 'Aggression'

LD091312 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1254 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has sent a message to the chairman of the UN Security Council. The text of this message follows:

I wish to inform you that the territory of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah was subjected to military aggression on 8 August 1987. This aggression occurred at the Jamahiriyah's southern international border.

The forces of imperialism, colonialism, and reaction, through their well-known alliance, carried out this aggression, providing it with all means and capabilities.

This aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah constitutes a threat to world and regional peace and security, and is a violation of international laws and conventions. This is a matter that gives the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah the right to respond to the aggression and destroy it at its source.

While notifying you of these grave developments so that you can assume your full responsibilities in facing up to the situation, we affirm the Jamahiriyah's right to use all means necessary to repel this aggression and destroy it at its source.

The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison also sent a message to the OAU secretary general. The text of this message follows:

I wish to inform you that the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's southern borders were exposed to a military aggression on 8 August 1987. This aggression was conducted against our international borders and was planned and carried out by the imperialist, colonialist, and reactionary forces through their well-known alliance. This alliance amassed all capabilities and means including the necessary coverage of information.

This aggression against the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's southern international border poses a threat to international and regional peace and security in the region, and constitutes a violation of international laws and conventions. This matter gives the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah the right to reply to this aggression and to destroy it at its source.

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah wishes to highlight this aggression, which flouts the 23d OAU summit conference resolution — which called for parties to refrain from taking any measures whatsoever that will worsen the situation — and which proposed a number of measures to solve the border dispute between Libya and Chad by peaceful means within the OAU framework.

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah wishes to notify you of this aggression against its southern international border and of the security and world consequences resulting from it. Libya at the same time affirms it will use all means necessary to repel the aggression and destroy it at its source.

Al-Qadhdhafi Briefs Leaders

LD091931 Tripoli JANA in English 1835 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 9, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The leader of the revolution conducted a telephone conversation with [Algerian] President Chadli Bendjedid.

The leader of the revolution explained to President Bendjedid the nature of aggression against the Libyan territory and the determination of Great Jamahiriyah to repulse this aggression and eliminate its source.

On the other hand Colonel Thomas Sankara, the president of the Revolutionary National Council in the Jamahiriyah of Burkina Faso, contacted the leader of the revolution regarding the aggression to which the Libyan Arab territory was subjected.

Foreign Envoys Summoned

LD101138 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Aug (JANA) — The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison this morning summoned Arab and African ambassadors accredited to the Great Jamahiriyah and informed them about the aggression launched against the Jamahiriyah's southern borders on 8 August. This aggression was planned and carried out by the imperialist, colonialist, and reactionary forces through their well-known alliance, which includes the required coverage of information.

AL-JAMAHIRIYAH Criticizes Islamic Royalty

LD072316 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2001 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] In today's issue, *Al-Jamahiriyah* publishes an article entitled: "Reason Has Become Apparent From [word indistinct]." The article states: There is nothing in Islam that entitles a tribe to monopolize power so that it would have kings, crown princes, ministers, and senior Army and police officers, and for that tribe to possess the distinction of imposing its name on the remaining tribes and having the whole country named after itself. There is nothing natural about a group of people monopolizing the wealth that was granted by God to all Muslims. It is not the right of that group to spend the wealth of Arabs and Muslims to purchase AWACS that receive their instructions

from U.S. officers in ground observation centers. It is not the right of that group to squander the wealth of Arabs and Muslims at random, sometimes by giving a loan to Britain — the enemy of Arabs and Muslims — to prevent its economy from collapsing, and another time by supporting the contra gangs under the supervision of [Lieutenant] Colonel [Oliver] North and for the benefit of the U.S. CIA.

It is not the right of that group to deposit in the neo-Crusaders' banks in the United States and other places hundreds of billions of dollars while millions in Muslim countries writhe or even die from thirst and hunger. There is nothing in Islam stipulating that there should be a royal family in any country. As soon as this family gives birth to an infant, the treasury safes are be opened for it to receive a monthly salary equivalent to the yearly expenditure of a Somali or Mauritanian Arab village. Once that infant is weaned, its salary is doubled, and when it reaches adolescence, it receives the right to indulge impudently, as the whole of his family does, to spend its wealth as it pleases.

In Islam, there is neither king, nor president; not prince of the faithful, nor governor; not even the expected mahdi, for whom the brows of Muslims bow in humility or their necks are cut. When the Umayyad king, 'Abd al-Malik ibn Marwan, wished to seize the Ka'bah and include it in the possessions of the Umayyads, he did not do so out of reverence for it, but because he wanted to extend the scope of his authority. When al-Hajjaj al-Thaqafi employed seige catapults to strike the Ka'bah on behalf of the Umayyad king, 'Abd al-Malik ibn Marwan, he was desecrating all sanctuaries on the pretext of quelling dissension, although the truth was that he wanted to consolidate the throne of his king and master.

What do the kings know about the sanctity of Islam? What is the sanctity of Islam as far as they are concerned? They might be attached to the Ka'bah, not for the sake of its sanctity, but because their thrones benefit from its sanctity. What is more serious than all these matters is the fact that they call these things Islam.

It is not in Islam that a group of Muslims may hand control of their affairs to America. It is America that established the Zionists as an entity and enabled them to evict the Muslim Arabs from their homes in Palestine. It is America that armed the Jews with nuclear weapons, cluster bombs, and long-range missiles. It is America that killed the Arabs and Muslims in Lebanon, Palestine, and Libya. What kind of Islam is it that allows submission to it, and more than that, allows a group of Muslims to do this? Does not the Koran, which was sent to Muhammad, say: And he amongst you that turns to them is of them?

What kind of Islam is it that allows the existence of kings and then allows these kings to become puppets in the hands of every U.S. custodian, from Roosevelt to Reagan? What kind of Islam is it that allows Americans, English, and French to obtain an entry visa to the countries of the Arabs and Muslims immediately upon arrival at the airport, while doors are closed in the faces of Arabs and Muslims? What kind of Islam is it that allows a certain king in a certain country to chant the slogan: Praying in Jerusalem, while he knows that his personal adviser is the officer in charge of the CIA in the Middle East, who recruited Anwar al-Sadat in the mid-1960's?

What kind of Islam is it that agrees to beg Congress' approval for selling arms and accepts the United States' and Western conditions on using them against the Zionists, who ousted the Muslims from their homes? God is one and his religion is one, and we do not know a kind of Islam in which kings or presidents connive with Jews and neo-Crusaders about the Al-Aqsa. We do not know a kind of Islam in which there are long-bearded shaykhs who give sermons on Arafat day without reciting Al-Jihad verses, ignore Al-Aqsa, forget about the point of departure for God's prophet to the Seven Heavens, God's prayers and peace be upon him, and do not incite the pilgrims and all the Muslims to fight the Zionists. Either Mecca belongs to all the Arabs and Muslims or it is in the same situation as Jerusalem now, which belongs to the Zionists and the United States. Where were these thousands of guards who pretend to protect Islam in the summer of 1982, when the Jews violated Sidon and Beirut? Where were their Rambo-made muscles when the Zionists invaded the Sinai, the Golan Heights, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip? The Sinai, the Golan Heights, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip will not be freed by arms,arms whose manufacturers imposed conditions against employing them against the Jews. Al-Aqsa will not be recovered by these paper tigers. It will be recovered by the courageous faithful who exposed their chests to bullets and most courageously proclaimed their religion in the face of the U.S. helmets, which fled before them in total fear. They were not armed. Had they been armed, they would only have stopped in Gaza. We do not need the permission of anyone, anyone, to pray in a mosque, any mosque. We do not need a passport or a visa, not even to exchange currency. Let every country be responsible for its pilgrims. Mecca, Madinah, and Jerusalem belong to all Muslims and no one can close their doors in the face of any Muslim. Before one can do that, jihad will be proclaimed. Piety is the criterion of differentiation between one Muslim and another, and he who fights against America is entitled to piety, while he who submits to it is a renegade from the Islamic religion. Reason has been apparent from sin, and he who adheres to truth will be victorious.

King Fahd Contacts Al-Qadhdhafi on Mecca Incidents

LD101334 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text]The brother leader of the revolution has received a message from King Fahd giving clarification on the recent incidents that occurred in the holy city of Mecca during this year's pilgrimage season.

Algerian Defense Official Begins Official Visit

Urges Arab Unity

LD091552 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Major General 'Abdallah Belhouchet, member of the FLN Political Bureau and chief of staff of the Algerian Armed

Forces, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli this afternoon for an official visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed forces, was at the forefront of those welcoming Maj Gen 'Abdallah Belhouchet at Tripoli International Airport. Members of the Algerian Embassy in Tripoli also took part in the welcome.

In a statement to JANA at Tripoli International Airport, Maj Gen 'Abdallah Belhouchet noted that this visit comes in the context of the brotherly relations that link the sons of the Arab people in the two countries and the Libyan and Algerian revolutions. The Libyan and Algerian revolutions are the same revolution and the Arab people in the two countries are the same people. Belhouchet added: Every Libyan and Algerian is loyal to Arab unity and participates in it. There is absolutely nothing that separates us from each other, and this is an eternal objective to which we all aspire. The time has come to start the process of uniting the Arab homeland as a whole. We will start by uniting some of us, since we are in a sensitive area of the homeland and because the Greater Maghreb has great influence on all Arabs.

The Algerian Armed Forces chief of staff pointed out that imperialism, Zionism, and colonialism do not want the Arabs to become united. On the contrary, they would like to see Arabs disunified and separated from each other. We are now proceeding on the path of unity, but not just between Algeria and the Jamahiriyah. Our unity will be a stepping stone toward comprehensive Arab unity, if God is willing.

Talks Begin 9 Aug

LD092148 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] The Arab Libyan-Algerian talks within the framework of the unionist integration between the two sister countries have begun this evening in Tripoli. These talks were attended by Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Arab Libyan Armed Forces, and the brothers chiefs of staffs of the Armed Forces. The Algerian side was represented by Major General 'Abdallah Belhouchet, member of the FLN Political Bureau and the Algerian Armed Forces chief of staff, and the Algerian ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah. They were also attended by the brother secretary of the Libyan Fraternity Bureau in Algeria.

Belhouchet Meets Al-Qadhdhafi

LD100838 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0115 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received Major General Abdallah Belhouchet, member of the Algerian FLN Political Bureau and chief of staff of the Algerian Armed Forces. The meeting was attended by Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces; the Algerian ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah; and the secretary of the Libyan Arab Fraternity Bureau in Algiers.

Talks Conclude 10 Aug

LD101349 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Tripoli, 10 Aug (JANA) — Libyan Arab-Algerian talks were concluded this afternoon in Tripoli.

The concluding session of the talks, which come within the context of unionist integration between the two brotherly countries, was attended by Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and chiefs of staff of the Armed Forces. Algeria was represented by Major General Abdallah Belhouchet, member of the FLN Political Bureau and the Algerian Armed Forces chief of staff, and the military delegation accompanying him.

At the conclusion of the session, Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir presented Maj Gen Belhouchet with a gift.

Iran Urged To Separate Politics From Pilgrimage

EA082057 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has sent the following cable to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz:

We are sorry to hear of the Mecca events and appeal to everyone to abide by the regulations for the safety of the pilgrims and to observe the sanctity of the holy mosques. May Allah bless them to serve the Almighty's guests and ensure their safety.

His excellency also sent the following cable to President 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

We are sorry to hear of the Mecca events. May God have mercy on the souls of the dead. We appeal to you to accept a compromise between the freedom of pilgrimage and the obligation of the pilgrims to observe the regulations of the country acting as their host to guarantee everyone's safety. We appeal to you to cooperate in isolating the pilgrimage from political and factional differences and to cooperate in avoiding an expansion of conflict. We appeal to you, instead, to work for the resolution of problems among Muslims by peaceful means.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Visits Country

Confers With Al-Mahdi on Mecca

LD092150 Tehran IRNA in English 1718 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9, IRNA — Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said in Khartoum Saturday that world Muslims have a right to know the truth about the bloody Mecca catastrophe and Iran is justified in calling on the Muslim world to investigate the issue.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi made the remarks in a meeting with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam in the Sudanese capital Khartoum, where he said that performing an uninhibited hajj ceremony is a prime and divine right for all Muslims.

On the situation in Persian Gulf the Sudanese prime minister said his country believes that foreign powers should withdraw from all important and strategic points of the world including the Persian Gulf. No Muslim country should allow the superpowers to exert hegemony over the region, he stressed. In reply, Sheykh ol-Eslam said the prime motive behind the Mecca massacre was to overshadow the humiliating U.S. set back in the Persian Gulf.

Referring to the Saudi's deliberate delay in treating the wounded pilgrims as well as their stalling of efforts to deliver the bodies of martyrs, Sheykh ol-Eslam said they are withholding bodies of Iranian pilgrims in a bid to erase the signs of their crimes which are evident on the bodies. Saudi rulers are not qualified to administer the two holy sanctuaries and Muslim ulema and scholars are obliged to take necessary measures in this regard, stressed Sheykh ol-Eslam.

He called on Muslim personalities to form a probe team in order to investigate the incident and announce its findings.

Further Sheykh ol-Eslam explained the Islamic Republic's stance towards the latest developments in the Persian Gulf, in the meeting, where the two sides also discussed matters of mutual interests.

Sheykh ol-Eslam, heading a delegation, arrived in Khartoum Friday.

Discusses Ties With Ahmad

EA092149 Khartoum SUNA in English 1636 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, 9th Aug — Foreign Minister Muhammad Tawfiq Ahmad reviewed here Sunday with the Iranian undersecretary for the political affairs at the Foreign Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, the developments of the Gulf war and bilateral relations. The Iranian official explained to Tawfiq his country's views towards the current situations in the Gulf and Iran-Iraq war.

Sheykh ol-Eslam, who arrived here late yesterday, is expected to deliver a message from the Iranian prime minister to Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. The Iranian official has also expressed his country's readiness to the framework of the note of understanding which was signed between the two countries during Al-Mahdi's visit to Tehran last year, indicating that the forthcoming period will witness Iranian activities for backing the technical, commercial and economic cooperation between the two countries.

Press Conference Allegedly Denied

JN100712 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0626 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Aug (INA) — The Sudanese Information Ministry turned down a request by the embassy of the Iranian regime to hold a press conference here last night in which Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, deputy foreign minister of the Iranian regime, had been scheduled to speak.

A responsible source in the ministry told an INA correspondent here today that the decision was made in accordance with a recommendation by the Sudanese Foreign Ministry.

The Iranian deputy foreign minister arrived in Khartoum in an attempt to justify the recent crimes and attacks carried out by the agents of the Iranian regime in Mecca.

Garang Willing To Meet Southern Politicians

EA081701 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] The leader of the SPLM/SPLA, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, in a lengthy interview with a special correspondent of a leading Khartoum daily, yesterday, stated that he was informed about a prospective meeting between representatives of southern political parties and the movement. Col Dr John Garang

de Mabior said that there was no objection on the side of the movement to meeting the delegation, but he added that the expected exchange of views between southern Sudanese politicians and the SPLM would be in the national context since the policy of the SPLM/SPLA is to meet and discuss the problems of the whole country with all Sudanese political forces and without distinction to their policies or regional base.

5th Member of Head of States Council Selected

EA082049 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] At 1500 today Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi held a press conference at the General Secretariat of the Council of Ministers. To begin the press conference his excellency made a statement in which he pointed out that the Constituent Assembly had selected Mirghani al-Nasri, the advocate, as the fifth member of the Head of States Council. He then congratulated Mirghani al-Nasri.

His excellency said that the fifth member should have been nominated by the Democratic Unionist Party [DUP] following the resignation of Muhammad al-Hasan Abdullah Yasin in accordance with the agreement governing relations between the Ummah Party and the DUP. The DUP nominated Ahmad al-Sayyid Hamad, but the Ummah Party rejected this nomination because, among other things, the memorandum of understanding the parties signed in June 1987 stipulated that "Al-Sadin" should be kept out of office in order to eliminate the vestiges of the May regime [Numayri's revolution]. The memorandum defines "Al-Sadin" as a person who has exploited his position to annoy others, gained an undeserved promotion, worked for the state security organ, taken part in the persecution or harming of citizens, tortured members of the national opposition, and enriched himself as a result of favoritism.

Mr Ahmad al-Sayyid Hamad held a prominent political position during the May regime. He never ceased to violently attack that regime's opposition, thus landing himself within the first provision of the definition. Moreover Ahmad al-Sayyid Hamad continued to attack the Ummah Party and the alliance between the Ummah Party and the DUP.

For this reason, the Ummah Party opposed his nomination and demanded that another person be selected. However, the DUP reiterated its support for Ahmad al-Sayyid Hamad and resolved to expel any other nominee who presented himself in his name.

The Ummah Party resolved that if the DUP submitted the name of any other person, it would support him, provided he did not involve himself in intrigues to divide the DUP on this matter. But since the DUP refused to submit the name of another qualified person, the Ummah Party had to nominate a patriotic and nationalist personality for the seat. This is what happened. Mirghani al-Nasri was nominated on the basis of his being a national personality.

His excellency said that the Ummah Party was of the view thatthe Ummah, the DUP, and the other parties had a charter, a memorandum of understanding, and a political alliance in theservice of the homeland, aimed at making the democratic experiment successful. The Ummah remained silent about all the attacks from Mr Ahmad al-Sayyid Hamad in view of these considerations. It feels that what happened is no more than a difference resolved by democratic means and does not want to magnify it but is interested in the unity of the ranks for the sake of the homeland. It will work with the DUP in an amicable manner so that the two parties do not face a similar situation again.

His excellency reminded the citizens that the responsibility of governing falls on his shoulders and this is upheld by the majority in the Constituent Assembly. It is hoped that the two parties will overcome this transient matter and work with the other parties to serve nation-building and progress.

The prime minister did not rule out the existence of some differences between the two major parties, but he said they were united by the uprising charter and the memorandum of understanding between them.

He added: The governing parties do not wish [words indistinct] but should coordinate their practices. Every party has its own program and its leadership. He went on to say that the atmosphere prevailing at the Head of States Council and the Council of Ministers had been good and positive as far as the parties were concerned. Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said that democracy was one of the ways of resolving differences by peaceful means. He said that the issues included in the charter and the memorandum covered all the differences between the two sides.

DUP Rejects Council Member

EA091921 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Mr Sayyis Ahmad al-Husayn, deputy prime minister, minister of the interior, and acting secretary general of the Democratic Unionist Party [DUP], has said that the DUP rejects the nomination and election of Mirghani al-Nasri as the fifth member of the Head of States Council as the seat belongs to the DUP according to the agreement stated in the memorandum of understanding between the Ummah Party and the DUP.

His excellency said that the memorandum of understanding covers the question of nominations. Nominations are an issue that concern the party only.

Speaking at a news conference which he held this evening, Sayyis Ahmad al-Husayn said that following the ambiguities and circumstances surrounding the nomination of the fifth member of the Head of States Council, it would be difficult for the DUP to continue its march with the Ummah Party.

INTER-GULF AFFAIRS

U.S.-Chartered Ship With Iranian Oil Hits Mine

JN101528 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1502 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] An incident involving a mine explosion took place in Gulf waters today off the UAE port of Al-Fujayrah and near the Hormuz Strait. A supertanker hit a mine when it entered this area. The supertanker is Panamanian and is chartered by a U.S. company. The supertanker was coming from Iran's Larak oil terminal after loading Iranian oil. The mine explosion caused heavy damage. The explosion breached its bulkhead and oil began to leak. However, no crew members were injured.

KUWAIT

Shaykh Sabah Denies Reported Visit by Iran Group

LD081248 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1213 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Aug (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today announced Kuwait's approval of Tunisia's call of last week for an Arab League Council emergency meeting on the foreign ministerial level. He said that the date of the meeting would be left for the brothers to decide in the light of current consultations on this matter.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad denied reports published yesterday in the British newspaper *The Independent* which said that a high-ranking Iranian delegation had visited Kuwait during the last few days. He said: "While we wish to have good relations with Iran, there is no truth in the report about a visit by any Iranian delegation to Kuwait."

Briefs Cabinet on Iran 'Contacts'

LD091400 Kuwait KUNA in English 1302 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 9 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Sunday briefed the Cabinet on contacts with Tehran to restore to normal the functioning of the Kuwaiti Embassy there and latest developments on the call for an extraordinary Arab foreign ministerial meeting.

Public health minister and acting state minister for cabinet affairs Dr. 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abdallah al-'Awadi told reporters that the Cabinet listened to Shaykh Sabah on developments in contacts with Iran in the session chaired by H.H. the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah.

Shaykh Sabah said that the contacts focussed on restoring normalcy to the Kuwaiti Embassy in the Iranian capital in accordance with international charters and norms that govern diplomatic relations between countries.

The Kuwaiti chief diplomat further informed the ministers on Tunisia's call for an urgent meeting of the Arab League ministerial council to discuss latest developments in the Arab Gulf region, to realize a united Arab position toward fateful questions and to bolster Arab solidarity and joint action.

Kuwait had announced approval to attend a meeting for the council, grouping the Arab foreign ministers, to be preceded by a meeting for the seven-man Arab committee assigned by the league to follow up developments of the Iraq-Iran war.

Dr. al-'Awadi said that the Cabinet ministers reviewed international efforts aimed at halting the Iraq-Iran war.

They discussed current consultations among permanent members of the Security Council to provide necessary means to achieve the required response to the Council's 598 Resolution calling for an end to the Iraq-Iran war to restore security and stability to the Gulf region, he added.

The Cabinet reviewed a number of reports from embassies abroad on events in the Arab and global arenas and in the Arab Gulf region in particular, the minister noted. He added that domestic issues were tackled including reports by specialized ministerial committees.

Amir Receives Reply Message From Gorbachev

LD101257 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1209 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 10 Aug (KUNA) — Salah Nazzal dispatch:

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received a message addressed to the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. The message was delivered by Vladimir (?Zenetchev), the charge d'affairs of the USSR Embassy in Kuwait, when he called on the Kuwaiti foreign minister at the Foreign Ministry in Kuwait today.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told the press that the message was in reply to a message which the Kuwaiti amir sent to the Soviet leader 2 weeks ago. [passage omitted]

Amir Receives Message From Saudi King Fahd

LD091122 Kuwait KUNA in English 1045 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 9 (KUNA) — His Highness the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah Sunday received a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia. The message was delivered by Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sederi.

Foreign Ministry Official Meets With Iraqi Envoy

LD081418 Kuwait KUNA in English 1327 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 8 (KUNA) — Acting director of Political Department at the Foreign Ministry Abd al-'Aziz al-Sharekh Saturday met with Iraqi charge d'affaires to Kuwait Muayad al-Naqshbandi [name as received]. It was learnt that developments in the region in addition to the current consultation toward

holding an urgent meeting of Arab League Council as proposed by Tunisia were discussed during the meeting.

QATAR

Amir Receives Message From Saudi King Fahd

JN091136 Doha QNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Doha, 9 Aug (QNA) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, has received a message from Saudi Arabian King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, dealing with the current situation in the region as well as the strong, brotherly relations between the two countries.

The message was conveyed by Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Saudi minister of education and higher education, when he was received by his highness the amir of Qatar this morning. The meeting was attended by His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister.

Dr al-Khuwaytir left Doha following a visit of several hours.

SAUDI ARABIA

Interior Minister Declares Hajj Season 'Success'

LD072129 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, interior minister and chairman of the Higher Hajj Committee, announced the success of this year's pilgrimage season. This came in a cable his highness sent to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, to congratulate him on this success.

His Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz stated: The success of the pilgrimage season and enabling the guests of God to perform their duty with ease and assurance was due to your directives and care, after God. His highness noted the good organization, the sound planning, the excellent efforts, and the fruitful coordination among those participating in the works related to the hajj. His highness pointed out that all these succeeded in providing full services to the pilgrims, thus facilitating pilgrimage affairs and surrounding the pilgrims with an atmosphere of exemplary security.

In his cable to the custodian of the two holy mosques, his highness stated: The pilgrims this afternoon began to depart Mina, praying to God to grant you long life for the great services that the Kingdom has provided them. His highness the interior minister ended his cable expressing his pride in and appreciation for the directives and care of the custodian of the two holy mosques.

Iranian Minister Said 'Lying' About Mecca Corpses

LD081721 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1536 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Jeddah, 8 Aug (SPA) — In reply to the announcement by the Iranian interior minister in a statement to Tehran radio yesterday, that if the Saudi authorities wanted to cooperate they would have returned the bodies of all the victims on the first plane which arrived in Tehran on Wednesday, an Interior Ministry spokesman told SPA:

Let the Iranian people know that the Iranian interior minister is lying in this statement, because it was the Iranian regime that requested from the beginning that the dead and the injured be transported on three planes, and we can prove this.

The spokesman added: Maybe the point of having several cargo flights was so the Tehran rulers could repeat the dramatic transfer operations with a view to arousing the emotions of the Iranian people, who have began to realize the purpose behind the provocative media campaign orchestrated by the Iranian regime. This is done in order to mislead Iranian and international public opinion regarding the truth about the vile crimes perpetrated by the Iranian regime in the holy land, both at present and in the past.

Finally, the spokesman added: We pointed out in an earlier statement that Iranian officials deliberately slowed down the process of identifying the victims of their crimes and taking delivery of them. This is the truth which the Iranian interior minister is trying in vain to refute with false accusations — which is not a new practice with him.

Further on Iranian 'Lies'

LD081628 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1534 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Jeddah, 8 Aug (SPA) — An Interior Ministry official spokesman has made the following statement to SPA:

Tehran radio today reported a number of improper accusations by Majlis member Sadeq Khalkhali, who said that the Saudi police fired 50,000 bullets at Iranian pilgrims; that soldiers and commandos from Oman and North Yemen were deployed throughout Mecca, harassing Iranians; that ambulances carried stones to be thrown at Iranian demonstrators; and so on and so forth — lies that no sensible man could believe.

The source added: The Saudi Interior Ministry, while categorically denying these false accusations, confirms to Islamic, Arab, and international public opinion the extent of the perdition and error into which the Iranian authorities have stumbled by spreading such fabrications.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Operations Continues

Communique No 2,769 Issued

JN071637 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,769 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The Iranian rulers continue to insist on their policy of aggression and to reject the principles of peace. They thus ignore calls by the international community and the cries of their people, who are afflicted with these rulers. On the other hand, the heroic Iraqi men continue to defend their people and homeland with courage and fearlessness. Our men are pouring their wrath on the heads of the evil men, the enemies of peace and mankind. The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. The heroic eagles of the air continue to pour hellish fire on the enemy. They also sow death among enemy ranks and destroy the enemy's equipment. Our eagles destroyed a large amount of enemy equipment and guns in 54 combat missions. After carrying out all their duties, the heroic eagles returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our daring helicopter gunships continue to pour their wrath on the renegade enemies. Our brave knights carried out 74 combat sorties yesterday afternoon and today, destroying the rogues' military hardware and equipment. They then returned safely to base under God's protection.

3. Ten enemy soldiers were killed and two infantry positions were destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

4. One enemy soldier was killed and one infantry position and one ammunition dump were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

5. Two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed, and one enemy vehicle was damaged in the I Army Corps northern sector.

6. One enemy soldier was killed and one RPG-7 launcher was destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

7. One ammunition dump was detonated in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

8. Several Iranian military personnel sought refuge with our forward units to escape the tyranny of the charlatanist regime in Iran. They were then safely evacuated to the rear lines.

9. Using long-range artillery, the clique of charlatanism and injustice shelled residential areas in heroic Basra. As a result of this shelling, several houses and civilian properties were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 August 1987

Downing of Aircraft Denied

JN081114 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims of downing an Iraqi fighter at the battlefront on the evening of the day before yesterday. The spokesman added that all Iraqi planes returned safely to base after carrying out their missions. The spokesman challenged the Iranian authorities to prove their assertions.

Communique No 2,770 Issued

JN081646 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,770 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our Armed Forces continue their glorious defense of the homeland. They are inflicting further losses on the charlatans' regime, which insists on war and aggression. The following is a roundup of our forces' activities for last night and today:

1. The planes of our gigantic Air Force launched successful raids on enemy units in the operational sectors, inflicting losses on the enemy in personnel, equipment, and weapons. Our aircraft carried out 48 combat missions and then returned safely to base with God's help.

2. Our daring helicopter gunships carried out 50 combat missions today against the scoundrels' troop concentrations and their equipment and gun emplacements, inflicting important losses on them. Our helicopters then returned safely to base, God be praised.

3. An enemy force attempted to approach one of our forward units' positions in the I Army Corps northern sector. Our brave soldiers met this force with all types of weapons and forced it to flee after killing or wounding a number of its soldiers. Elsewhere in this sector, two people were killed, one vehicle was destroyed, and two RPG launchers and one medium machinegun were captured.

4. Using its tanks, one of our units in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris dealt an effective blow to enemy positions located opposite itself. Our unit killed 14 scoundrels, wounded others, and destroyed a number of infantry positions.

5. The enemy's engineering works were paralyzed and one machinegun and one personnel position were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

6. A number of Iranian military personnel took refuge with our forward units and were evacuated safely to the rear lines.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 August 1987

Downing of 2 Helicopters Denied
JN081839 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1824 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA) — Iraq has denied Iranian claims that two Iraqi helicopters were shot down on the battlefront yesterday.

In a statement to INA this evening, an Iraqi military spokesman refuted these Iranian allegations, calling them groundless.

Downing of Aircraft Denied
JN091622 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1558 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Aug (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims of downing an Iraqi fighter today. The spokesman stated that all Iraqi aircraft which had carried out missions today had returned safely to base. The spokesman challenged the Iranian rulers, who have been raising a clamor in their media with hollow lies, to prove their claims.

In another development, an Iraqi military spokesman denied Iranian claims concerning military operations in the Khurmal area in northern Iraq. The spokesman noted that such claims are part of the absurd media buffoonery that no one takes seriously any more. The spokesman added that the situation in all the border villages is stable and calm.

Communique No 2,771 Issued
JN091708 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,771 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 9 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant Armed Forces are continuing to destroy the remnants of tyranny and aggression with high efficiency. They are also continuing to impose their complete control over the operational theaters, while additionally inflicting new losses on the aggressors. The following is a roundup of our units' activities for last night and today:

1. The aircraft of our daring Air Force today delivered devastating blows against the enemy's troop concentrations, positions, and weapons. After inflicting grave losses on the enemy in 63 combat missions, our aircraft returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

2. The cavaliers of the helicopter gunships today carried out 49 combat missions, inflicting new losses on the aggressor scoundrels. They then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Our valiant units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah inflicted new losses on the enemy. They achieved the following today: the destruction and burning of three vehicles; the burning of one tubular launcher; the destruction of one shovel [preceding word in English]; and the destruction of two ammunition dumps.

4. Four enemy personnel were killed, one tank was burned, and one vehicle carrying ammunition and one ammunition dump were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

5. Three enemy personnel were killed and two infantry positions and two ammunition dumps were destroyed in the V Army Corps northern sector.

6. Seven enemy personnel were killed in the Special I Army Corps sector — the Allahu Akbar Forces sector.

7. One enemy vehicle and one ammuniton dump were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

8. One enemy machinegun position and one observation post were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

9. Using long-range artillery, the bloody Khomeyniite clique shelled residential areas in the valiant city of Basra and Qal'at Dizah and the (Bimalik) housing complex in Qal'at Dizah. This shelling martyred three civilians, including one woman, while wounding five others, including one woman and three children from Qal'at Dizah. The shelling also damaged a number of houses and civilian property in the city of Basra. Mercy be upon our martyrs and a quick recovery for our wounded citizens, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 9 August 1987

Shelling of Sar Dasht Denied
JN091827 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1802 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 9 Aug (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims that Iraqi forces shelled the outskirts of the Iranian border town of Sar Dasht. The spokesman stated that it was Iran which today had conducted a barbaric shelling of the residential areas of Basra in southern Iraq and the Bimalik [name as received] housing complex in Qal'at Dizah in northern Iraq. [passage omitted]

Tabriz Oil Refineries Raided
JN101014 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0907 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Communique No 2,772 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 10 August 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God is great. He is our supporter and is to be praised for granting us victory over the apostates. O proud Iraqis, the Iranian regime that insists on pursuing its policy of tyranny and aggression and which officially declared through its tyrannical gang its rejection of the international community's unanimity in calling for peace — a unanimity embodied in UN Security Council Resolution No 598 issued on 20 July 1987 — has practically demonstrated its rejection of peace by continuing its aggression on our international borders and by striking at purely residential areas. This regime, which has indulged in its crimes to the extent of transgressing against the holy mosque and the guests of God on

the great pilgrimage day, deserves painful, crippling blows that will destroy its rancor, end its evil intentions, and stop its folly.

Great Iraq, which for the past 7 years has waged a holy war in the political, military, and economic fields and which has emerged victorious in all of them — praise be to God, and thanks to the wise, courageous leadership of its victorious President Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him, as well as the Iraqi people's efforts and the fighters' performance on the battlefield — is capable of defeating the aggression everywhere and at all times. Great Iraq is capable of destroying the aggressors, establishing an honorable peace, and supporting right against wrong.

In implementing our people's will to destroy the economic pillars that the charlatans employ in their war of aggression, to exercise our legitimate, undisputable right to punish our enemies who insist on war, and to divest them of all means of aggression, great numbers of our aircraft piloted by our jealous sons took off at 0900 [0500 GMT] today to penetrate deep inside Iranian territory in the north, center, and south. They pounded the following targets:

1. Our daring pilots, with their well-known skill and courage, penetrated the enemy's ground defenses, including Hawk and SAM missiles — which the Iranian regime had obtained from Zionism and its agents — and reached their targets in the Tabriz oil refineries in Iran's northernmost area. They then delivered destructive blows against these refineries.

2. Our aircraft launched a destructive raid against their targets in the Bibi Hakimah oil fields.

3. A number of our aircraft reached their targets in the Garang oil fields and delivered destructive blows.

4. A number of our aircraft at the same time dealt violent blows against the Marun oil fields and strongly punished them.

5. At the same time, other numbers of our aircraft dealt blows to the Gachsaran No 3 oil fields.

6. A number of our aircraft also delivered devastating blows to installations in the Gachsaran No 2 oil fields.

The hawks of the air departed their targets only after they had observed explosions emanating from all of them, as well as fire and thick smoke billowing from them. After carrying out their missions, all of our aircraft then returned safely to the homeland in God's care and protection.

Glory to you, genuine men of our heroic Air Force — commanders, hawks, officers, and other ranks. By God, you are worthy of every honor.

Let the scoundrel Khomeyniites know that their insistence on crimes against humanity and its values and their rejection of God's will and the appeal for peace will only reap them further defeats and destruction.

Our swords will not be pulled away from their necks until they announce an official and documented acceptance of peace. God will grant us victory.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 August 1987

Peres Comments on Early Elections, Peace Conference

TA070648 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0500 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel in the IDF Radio broadcasting van outside the foreign minister's office in Jerusalem and with Mikha Friedman and Ya'el Dan in the IDF studios in Tel Aviv — live]

[Text][Friedman] The Knesset summer session has ended and we still have nothing concrete about early elections. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir summed this episode up in the following words: The scenario has proceeded exactly as we thought it would; the Alignment suffered a bitter defeat, while the Likud scored a great victory. It would seem that the facts, as we see them, support Shamir's description of the situation.

[Peres] The question is: What is the goal? Is it for one party to defeat the other, or for the chances of peace to win out over the dangers and risks of war? This is sometimes compared to a soccer match, with its field markings and objectives of the game. Lots of people draw this comparison, but I disagree. I believe that we are dealing with a peace process, and it is my opinion that the peace process has gained momentum. It has not shriveled or died; there is no alternative to it, and it will continue. Even in the Knesset, although the media predicted that we would not garner a majority or even a 50-50 vote, I believe that we proved that there is a majority that supports early elections. We had our own reasons for preferring to defer the issue for the time being.

[Dan] Can you tell us the composition of that majority, even if you cannot divulge everything. Can you just provide us with bits of information?

[Peres] First of all, there are the simple matters, or shall we call it the camp that routinely supports early elections. At present, it includes 59 Knesset members [MK's]. Another MK, Ya'aqov Yosef [of SHAS, Torah Observing Sephardim], has of his own free will announced that he is also joining this camp. This makes 60. I have grounds to believe that another one or two MK's will also support this.

[Frankel] Mr Peres, you have long maintained that in the absence of agreement on political issues, elections should be held. You claim that there is a Knesset majority for it, possibly even a large majority. Yet you appear to be allowing the opportunity to slip through your fingers. On the whole, it seems that when it comes to implementing political moves, the Alignment frequently becomes numb and cannot act.

[Peres] No, this is not the case. It was necessary to weigh what was more important: Whether this should be done on the last day of the current Knesset session, or to do it — or something similar — at the opening of the next session. The difficulty, of course, lies in the fact that such a bill requires four Knesset readings: a preliminary reading and three subsequent readings — first, second, and third. We realized that this could not take place during the Knesset's recess, whereas the option of creating a parliamentary situation which would be only declarative in nature did not strike us as meaningful.

[Frankel] In other words, your considerations were purely tactical, and after the recess you will move for early elections?

[Peres] No, I never said that. There is an incessant argument over this between the media and us. Our considerations are strategic, not tactical, and the strategic consideration calls for keeping the peace process alive. The whole early elections issue is nothing but a means to achieve the end. I believe that the peace process is not defunct, has not lost its momentum, and is not dying. There is no substitute for it, and it will not die or wilt. This is my chief consideration.

[Friedman] Yitzhaq Shamir is a long-standing opponent of an international conference under any label: an opening, an umbrella, a preamble. He undoubtedly has read all the material and is familiar with the whole range of information; yet he still has not budged an inch from his position. What new argument or novel, indisputable reasoning can you present to Shamir to persuade him and his party to support an international conference?

[Peres] Look, first of all, I am not for hire as a persuader. Furthermore, I know that the Likud was split over the Camp David accords, too. So what could I do about that? It was also split over the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon. I hope that by now the entire nation understands that these moves — the Camp David accords and the decision on Lebanon — were correct.

But to answer your question. For the first time ever, Jordan is agreeing to enter into direct negotiations by way of an international opening, serving as a corridor leading to these direct talks. You in the media, in trying to make people forget so soon, also surprise me. After all, an international conference was held once. That was in 1973, and it included the Soviet Union, Egypt, and Jordan. Mr Begin, who was the leader of the Likud, supported an international conference in 1977. The only change now is that the conditions have improved. Whereas all along Jordan refused to commit itself to entering direct negotiations without preconditions after an international opening, now the situation is different.

Moreover, let me tell you that I am somewhat amazed by the media's allegations that an international conference and a priori concessions are linked, and that we are prepared to see Jerusalem repartitioned. This is a totally unfounded mispresentation. In the negotiations, again, we will insist that the Jordan River serve as Israel's security border. Yet this has nothing to do with the content of the negotiations.

[Friedman] And what about Gaza? Do you agree with your fellow party member MK Katz-'Oz that it should be returned?

[Peres] I hold my own views, and they are that it is first necessary to get to the point of launching negotiations and only then begin discussing the demarcation lines on the map. It would be a show of impatience for anyone to discuss maps before finding an interlocutor. This has resulted in a political freeze.

Incidentally, in view of the fact that you are hungry for news...

[Friedman, interrupting] Indeed, we are.

[Peres, laughing] I know that. Well, there is the demographic factor which even the Likud is gradually beginning to see. The policy of the national camp [the Likud] is turning Israel into a binational state, and this will be a virtually irreversible move that will be regretted for generations to come. It is impossible to walk around with a blindfold while exclaiming: Look how beautiful the world is! I urge everyone to open his eyes and view the political scene realistically.

[Frankel] This week you expressed your desire to meet with Yitzhaq Shamir, while he — the very same week — said that there is no point in discussing the international conference with him and that any attempt to persuade him will prove futile.

[Dan] He even went beyond that, saying that this initiative has already collapsed.

[Peres] Yes, word of this has reached me. But neither Mr Shamir nor myself are absolute rulers in Israel. We have a very real problem to which we should devote a serious discussion. What does it mean: Mr Shamir says, or I say? There are at least 60 MK's, as well as half the Cabinet, who support this. Even Mr Shamir should concentrate and think of ways to reconcile the democratic method dialogue with (?a division) which is splitting the Cabinet and the Knesset down the middle.

[Friedman] How long will you give him this chance?

[Peres] Does he think that his television appearance will make anyone change his mind, that it will paralyze half the nation, or that it will make it possible to issue orders, instructions, or threats?

[Friedman] How long will you wait for Shamir to adopt your view, thereby eliminating the need to call elections?

[Peres] Once again, you want me to talk about elections. My goal is the peace process. I take a very serious view of this. It is the central issue for the people and our future.

[Friedman] Will you be prepared to give this all the time in the world, or do you have some deadlines?

[Peres] I am prepared to give it all the time in the world and to devote all my energies and patience to it and not to despair. I know that great moves take time, and that they involve an argument over very difficult topographical and emotional political views. There is nothing new in this. However, the chance of removing Israel from the cycle of war is currently better than at any time before, and could be better than any future chance. This is due to the specific political state of affairs prevailing in the Middle East at the moment: with the Iran-Iraq war, which has been taking up a lot of energy; with a certain openness in Moscow — which one should nevertheless not exaggerate; with the readiness shown by the U.S. Administration; with the Arab world experiencing an economic slump; and with the present low oil prices. In brief, there is a mixture of various serious conditions. So I again urge you, too, to go back and treat the issue seriously and not to dismiss it as though it were a game.

[Frankel] Perhaps we should go back to the process itself. Charlie Hill, the U.S. secretary of state's aide, is expected here on Sunday. According to information we received from Shamir's office, new peace plans and new alternatives to the international conference will be discussed with him.

[Peres] If Charlie Hill were our only problem, it would have been possible to make peace. The problem, however, is the Arab world, which has moved closer to our positions. The other positions, as presented by the Likud, favoring direct negotiations have remained untouched, triggered no reaction, and brought about no progress for the last 20 years. They have introduced no novelty and will bring no change. The same is true regarding the proposal that we go back to the Camp David process. After all, the Likud did conduct negotiations on autonomy, but they reached a stalemate and nothing came of them. So, let anyone seeking a deadlock, together with neat excuses, pursue this course; but those who seek openness plus new opportunities should seek a different path.

[Frankel] Does this mean that Hill is coming to make yet another effort to persuade Shamir, or perhaps to pressure him, on the matter?

[Peres] I do not know. All I know is that the United States believes that if direct negotiations can be achieved by way of an international accompaniment or umbrella, they will support this — and rightfully so.

[Friedman] Mr Peres, summer is here and the Knesset, for one, has announced this officially. All the MK's are going on vacation for several months. What do you plan to do during the coming 3 months?

[Peres] I have no intention of going on any holiday. I am used to working under these conditions, when so many people around me are skeptical or cocky or are abandoning the main goal. I have never done that and will not do it this time either. We will face the difficulties, discuss the issues, and prevail.

Of course, as you know, I will attend the UN General Assembly session at the end of September and will spend approximately 1 or 2 weeks in the United States, where I will meet with foreign ministers from both the West and the East.

[Frankel] Does that include the Soviet foreign minister?

[Peres] That could well be.

[Friedman] So it would not be fitting, or certainly it would be meaningless, for us to wish you a happy holiday, right?

[Peres] Look, I am not a spoiled person. You may wish me an enjoyable time doing my job.

[Dan] I suppose you have no intention of starting to smoke again, do you, Mr Peres?

[Peres] No. I am already past the withdrawal symptoms and am

in good condition and high spirits. I have faith and hope, which nothing will change.

JERUSALEM POST Questions Timing of Hill Mission

TA090737 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 Aug 87 p 8

[Editorial: "It's Called Momentum"]

[Text] The Knesset is now in recess, so all attempts by Mr. Peres and the Labour Party to force new elections or use the threat of such elections as a lever to move Prime Minister Shamir from his absolute negation of an international conference will be in recess as well.

Responding to this, for him, pleasing circumstance, Mr. Shamir has pronounced the conference proposal as effectively dead.

If that is indeed the case, it is puzzling why just at this juncture, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz should have elected to despatch one of his aides to Jerusalem for talks with Mr. Shamir and Mr. Peres. On the face of it there could only be two reasons: either his mission is to determine whether Mr. Shamir might still be given to some compromise or to open discussion on an alternative to the peace conference concept.

The prime minister has been pressing for the latter avenue. However, his suggestion to convene Jordan, Egypt and Israel for direct talks under a purely American, rather than broader international canopy, has so far been rejected by all the other parties. There is, therefore, no tangible reason to suppose that Mr. Shultz, through his special emissary, will now wish to jettison the international conference idea and commit the U.S. to support of Mr. Shamir's proposal.

If that is indeed the case, the emissary, Charles Hill, will be left to rehearse the old arguments which Mr. Shamir has so steadfastly rejected, and to hear in turn Mr. Shamir's old arguments which everyone else has rejected.

In the parlance of diplomacy, this is called "maintaining the momentum." Where in other departments of life, momentum usually refers to real movement, in diplomacy it can refer to its opposite; namely, confirming the absence of motion by pretending there is movement.

Such pretence is considered to have its own virtue. Though all parties know that nothing is happening or can happen, they pretend otherwise. But since they all know it is only pretence, whom are they pretending for? That always remains a mystery.

Yet it is a very hot summer, and any diversion, especially one carrying the panache of personal emissary of the U.S. Secretary of State bears with it relief.

Of course, it might have been more useful had Mr. Shultz resorted to such an element of drama, say three or four months ago. Then a more active assertion of the U.S. view on the peace conference and the prospects it offers for genuine direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan might have sustained what at the time appeared to be real momentum. But then he was reluctant.

Deciding not to station himself between the conflicting positions of Mr. Shamir and Mr. Peres, Mr. Shultz, by default, weighed in on behalf of the premier. In the process he helped stymie the considerable achievements which his own diplomats in the region had recorded on behalf of the peace process.

His reluctance to mix in was perhaps understandable. It is, after all, difficult for any Secretary of State to pursue diplomacy with a country that has two governments pulling in opposite directions. Yet it is also the case that there can be no real neutrality in such a circumstance, that neutrality itself has consequences.

Perhaps, Mr. Shultz believes it is not yet too late — that there is still time for the life of his administration and for the life of the present Israeli Government for the U.S. to assert its position and achieve something by that.

But it will require more than an emissary to persuade the Israeli citizenry that there is indeed motion in the momentum.

Egyptian Minister Ghali's OAU Remarks Protested

TA091916 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Israel has sharply protested to Egypt over remarks made by Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, at the OAU conference. In his speech, Butrus Ghali compared Israel to South Africa, saying that the regime in Israel is racist. The protest was contained in a message sent by Yosef Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, to Muhammad Basyuni, Egypt's ambassador to Israel.

In his speech at the OAU conference, Ghali said that the conditions of the Palestinians in the occupied territories and Israel's aggressive acts — such as the demolition of houses, detentions, and collective punishments — are similar to those suffered by blacks in South Africa. Our correspondent Yigal Goren reports that Mr Ben-Aharon's message was sent at the instruction of the prime minister, who wants the Egyptian Government to announce that it does not stand behind Ghali's declaration; in other words, that Egypt does not support a comparison between Israel and the regime in South Africa.

More Dissatisfaction With Egypt

TA080806 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Israel has expressed dissatisfaction over Egypt's failure to express reservations over the anti-Israeli resolution passed at the OAU conference. The resolution, initiated against Israel by Algeria, concerns Israel's attitude toward the Palestinians in the territories. Representatives of Cameroon and Zaire did express reservations over the resolution, but the Egyptian representatives did not. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that Israel has informed Egypt of its dissatisfaction over this approach.

Knesset Committees Support Continuation of Lavi

TA091620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] A large majority of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and Finance Committee support the continuation of the Lavi project. In a vote held a short time ago during a joint session of the two committees, 22 Knesset members [MK's] supported the Lavi, 6 opposed it, and 3 abstained.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that this is only a recommendation to the government, which is scheduled to make a decision on this issue early next week.

MK Shevah Weiss says that the vote will increase support for the Lavi. MK Pesah Grupper noted that the vote did not follow partisan lines. Citizens Rights Movement MK 'Oded Zucker asserts that the decision means the imposition of more taxes on the public and cuts in the welfare budgets, all for a project which does not interest the IDF.

Reaction to Decision Mixed

TA100438 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Reactions are continuing to come in after yesterday's joint recommendation by the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense and Finance Committees to continue the Lavi fighter project. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said he continues to support the Lavi for what he called national reasons. He added, however, that the future of the fighter jet was being influenced by electoral considerations. In an Israel Radio interview, Peres said $150 million in extra funding should be allocated for the project by lowering the standard of living.

Meanwhile, Abba Eban, head of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, said he hoped the government would make a more sensible decision than yesterday's recommendation to continue the project.

Ora Namir, chairperson of the Knesset Labor Committee, said continuation of the Lavi would ultimately mean more layoffs than if it were abandoned.

Tehiya Party head Ge'ula Kohen praised yesterday's vote by the Foreign Affairs and Defense and Finance Committees, and Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said the recommendation reflected the opinions of the Government and the majority of the country.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0400 GMT on 10 August carries a similar report, adding: "The defense establishment has voiced harsh criticism of the Knesset committees' decisions on the Lavi. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal cites IDF sources as saying that the continued development of the Lavi will require the funneling of hundreds of millions of dollars to the defense budget every year. Defense establishment sources have told our correspondent that the continuation of the project will have a negative effect on relations with the United States, since the mutual purchase agreement expires in 2 months and they believe it would not be revalidated. Also, the sum of money the United States is allowing us to convert into shekels will no longer be increased by $100 million."]

Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist' Post in Lebanon

TA091707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Israeli Air Force assault helicopters early this evening attacked a terrorist command post northwest of the village of Tibnin in southern Lebanon. All helicopters returned safely to base, and the pilots reported accurate hits. Our military correspondent adds that the attacked building served as a command post for terrorist organizations that cooperate with Hizballah against the IDF and the South Lebanese Army.

Syrian Group Said Responsible for Rocket Attacks

TA101150 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Israeli helicopter gunships yesterday attacked the South Lebanon headquarters of a terrorist group the Army spokesman said was linked to the pro-Iranian Hizballah. The helicopters reported direct hits and returned safely from the attack, a kilometer northwest of Tibnin. The IDF spokesman said the target was a launching point for the attacks against Israeli and South Lebanese Army soldiers. The spokesman denied any connection between the attack and the firing of several katyusha rockets that fell in the northern Galilee and north of the Israeli border from Lebanon earlier in the day. No one was injured, and no damage was caused in the katyusha attacks.

Meanwhile, the National Syrian Socialist Party in Lebanon has taken responsibility for the katyusha attacks. In a statement released in Tyre, the organization said the attacks were in response to Israel Air Force strikes against it in Ba'alabakk and Lake al-Qir'awn.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1130 GMT on 10 August 1987 reports: "Soldiers from the Shi'ite Amal organization were responsible for the firing of the katyusha rockets toward Israel this morning. This was reported by southern Lebanese sources. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that the shooting apparently came in reaction to yesterday afternoon's raid byIsraeli helicopter gunships on areas adjacent to territory controlled by Amal."]

Army Augments Presence Near Alfe Menashe

TA090437 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] The Army is preparing to construct six temporary lookout points along the road from the settlement of Alfe Menashe to the main road. The work began on Friday and was ordered speeded up in the wake of last week's petrol bombing outside the settlement. More from reporter Steve Rodan:

[Begin recording] For a month the Army had been considering new ways to cut down the wave of attacks along the road leading to Alfe Menashe. Now the Army's attempting to build infrastructure that would increase its response to any terror attacks along the two-lane road. The Army's building a minibase at the exact same spot where a petrol bomb struck 'Edna and Menashe Regev on Thursday. The Army encampment is similar to the one constructed outside the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp near Bethlehem. In addition, the Army is erecting six checkpoints along the road from Alfe Menashe to the main road toward Kefar Sava. This is to ensure a quick Army response in case of a terror attack.

The head of Army Central Command, Major General 'Amram Mitzna', ordered the work speeded up, and the construction will continue this morning. Mitzna"s orders came in response to last week's terror attack, and the groundwork for the new site is already being completed.

There were no major terror incidents reported in the territories over the weekend, but there was violence between Arabs and Jews in Hebron. There are about a dozen youngsters attending a summer camp operated by the KAKH Movement; [they] danced through Hebron toward Qiryat Arba', chanting "Arabs Out," and "The Temple Mount Should Be Blown Up." Arab residents confronted the KAKH youth and a fight broke out. No arrests were reported.

In another incident, the Army has completed an investigation into the death of a 7-year-old boy by a training explosive outside Nabulus. The Army spokesman said the boy and his cousin went into an area reserved for training and picked up an explosive from exercises that had taken place several days earlier. The dead boy's 12-year old cousin is still recuperating from his wounds in a Nabulus hospital. [end recording]

3 'Terrorist Squads' Uncovered; 8 Detained

TA090919 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
9 Aug 87 pp A1, 2

[Report by Ehud Rabinowitz, 'Imanu'el Rosen, and Avino'am Bar-yosef]

[Excerpt] Security forces recently uncovered three terrorist squads and detained eight of their members. Three terrorists have been charged with an attempt to murder a soldier and with throwing Molotov cocktails at Israeli vehicles in the Alfe Menashe area. Five other terrorists are accused of murder and a series of other attacks — successful or aborted — throughout the country. [passage omitted]

Molotov Cocktail Incidents Reported 9 Aug

Bus Hit in Janin District

TA090813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Egged bus traveling near the village of Al-Fandaqumiyah in the Janin district. It ignited, smashing the bus windshield, but no one was hurt. Two days ago, Molotov cocktails were hurled at the Egged bus depot in Janin and at the homes of residents in Janin and Nabulus. This is reported by our correspondent Arye Gus.

IDF Patrol Attacked in Nabulus

TA091708 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown at an IDF patrol in Nabulus. One of the soldiers suffered superficial burns. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that IDF units hurried to the area and imposed a curfew where the attack occured.

No Injuries in Gaza Attack

TA091929 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown this morning at an Israeli car at the Faris market in Gaza. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. Two policemen chased the throwers of the Molotov cocktail and detained a youth for interrogation, but they found he was not responsible for the act. Searches were carried out and a curfew was imposed, but those responsible were not captured. The curfew was later lifted.

61 Immigrants From Soviet Union Arrive 9 Aug

TA100706 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Some 61 immigrants from the Soviet Union arrived in Israel last night, the largest group to arrive on a single flight in many years. Some of the newcomers are from areas where Jews have not been allowed to leave for several years, including Tashkent in Uzbekistan, and (Barshad) in Moldavia. The group also includes immigrants from Moscow and Leningrad, among them several Hebrew speakers.

Iranian Envoy Threatens Terrorism in U.S. Cities

NC091250 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] The Iranian ambassador to Lebanon has threatened to take acts of terrorism to U.S. cities if the United States carries out operations against Iran. This came in a speech that the envoy made before a massive rally attended by members of the pro-Iranian Shi'ite Hizballah. The ambassador also discussed the recent events in Mecca.

Mission Fails To Extradite Soldier From Sweden

NC091613 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1545 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] The judicial mission to Sweden has returned to Beirut after failing to obtain the extradition of Lebanese soldier Elie Salibi. Judicial investigator Walid Ghamrah has declined to give any details of the results of his mission. He did disclose, however, that the Swedish Government has extended the precautionary detention of Salibi until 10 September.

Junblatt Delivers Eulogy at Sham'un Funeral

NC091735 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Eulogy delivered by PSP leader Walid Junblatt at the funeral for former Lebanese President Camille Sham'un at Dayr al-Qamar on 9 August — recorded]

[Text] We meet today to greet a prominent, faithful, and devoted son of Al-Shuf, the mountain, and Lebanon. We meet today to bid farewell to Camille Nimr Sham'un. He was the noble youth of Arabism and the bitter patriarch championing the cause of Christanity. Camille Sham'un was a stern and adamant opponent in bodh roles. At the same time, however, he was a shrewd and noble politician.

His departure today turns a page of our history and opens the door for new and different pages. If we fully comprehend the current stage, we will endeavor to preserve the remaining pabt of the homeland and together will seek to liberate, develop, and Arabize it. However, if we give the mobs, inexperienced politicians, and brokers a free hand, then the homeland will collapse and we will be sucked into a whirlpool of destruction and the unknown.

Our meeting in Al-Shuf today, in the heart of Lebanon, in Dayr al-Qamar, embodies the nobility of the mountain and demonstrates that coexistence is essential and a guarantee through good times and bad.

On behalf of the PSP, on behalf of Al-Shuf and Iqlim, on behalf of the Ma'ruf family and in my own name, we offer most sincere condolences on this sad occasion to the Sham'un family, to my friend Dany Sham'un, the family of the great deceased, the National Liberal Party, and the inhabitants of Dayr al-Qamar. We hope that the wounds will heal and that peace and stability will return to all Lebanon. [applause]

Al-Hashim Calls for Formation of New Government

NC100952 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Following a meeting with President Amin al-Jumayyil this morning, Minister Joseph al-Hashim said that the present government's power and the reasons for its continued existence have been seriously eroded. The government, he declared, has lost three of its prominent figures: Pierre al-Jumayyil, Rashid Karami, and Camille Sham'un. He added: It has also, I may say, lost the confidence of the people. This is why we should seek some way to form a new government. The present government has lost the confidence o the people, partly because it is divided and partly because it has boycotted itself.

Al-Hashim To Take Over Sham'un's Ministries

NC081101 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] According to a decree issued recently, Minister Joseph al-Hashim is expected to take over the Ministries of Finance, Housing, and Cooperatives, which had been headed by the late former President Camille Sham'un.

Birri Urges People's Revolt; To Attend UN Session

NC080544 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement, has called on the people to rise up in a revolution of the hungry, at least, if not a revolution of the sane. He said: The system is corrupt, and its leaders have compounded its corruption. They want a system in their image, which they can use to fill their pockets, which are bottomless. Minister Birri made this statement yesterday while commenting on the rise in the dollar rate.

It has been learned that Minister Birri will participate in the UN General Assembly session to begin on the third Tuesday of September in New York. Dr Hasan Yusuf, the Amal official in charge of foreign relations, contacted Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, yesterday and notified him of Minister Birri's decision to participate in the UN General Assembly's session as a representative of the south, which desperately needs to have its issue raised at the UN forum.

Birri on Economic Situation, Presidential Election

NC081611 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 1430 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] In a statement to the press this afternoon, Attorney Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, affirmed that the current economic situation is so serious that the political game, procrastination, and expressions of regret can no longer resolve it. He added that a Lebanese accord has become an issue of livelihood and, consequently, a matter of life and death.

Minister Birri expressed doubt that the economic situation could be endured until the presidential election. He reiterated that a Lebanese accord should be reached prior to any presidential election. Responding to a question about an early presidential election, Minister Birri said it would not resolve any problem; rather, it would act as an injection immunizing a dying body.

Asked whether preparations are being made for a military solution in light of the current political deadlock, Minister Birri said the issue is not one that can be resolved militarily. Issues, he added, should not be treated in this way nor on the basis of either white or black.

Minister Birri stressed that the atmosphere in East Beirut is similar to that prevailing in West Beirut; namely, one full of vigor for the sake of salvation. He emphasized, however, that salvation in Lebanon will not come in the form of a grant.

Asked to clarify the aim of his move to convene an expanded Islamic meeting, Minister Birri said: I will support every action that seeks to invigorate the ranks to confront the plot of a presidential election in the absence of an accord.

Junblatt Addresses PSP Militia Units 7 Aug

NC071436 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Excerpts] On this day, 7 August, the 11th anniversary of the establishment of the Popular Liberation Army-the Martyr Kamal Junblatt Forces, units from this army have conducted maneuvers with live ammunition in the Jabal al-Baruk area. PSP leader Walid Junblatt, Marwan Hamadah, PSP Secretary General Lieutenant Colonel Sharif Fayyad, and a number of Politburo and Central Committee members attended the maneuvers. [passage omitted]

At the conclusion of the exercises at 1230, Junblatt addressed the units taking part and said: Training within the limits of our modest resources is important at this stage. [passage omitted]

The PSP leader addressed the units at a reception held in their honor. He stated:

[Begin recording] Comrades, Popular Army Day is a national day for every honest patriot in the PSP, the Lebanese Communist Party, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, the Lebanese national resistance, the Ba'th Party Organization, the encircled Palestinian camps, the occupied south, and the Christian eastern areas which are being oppressed by Al-Jumayyil's gangs and army. [passage omitted]

This day is a national day for every patriot and steadfast resistance fighter in 'Aytat, 'Alayh, and the south who has not become intoxicated by victory but is continuing the struggle. It is the day of the patriot who has not been enticed by material goods and facilities that have introduced an element of bourgeois values into the party, but has remained steadfast and silent on the front and in the barracks, rejecting these crusts and even fighting against them. As you know, those alien to the party have fallen and will fall. Only the honest fighter in the Popular Liberation Army, the silent and steadfast giant fighter, will remain. The others will disappear. [applause] [passage omitted]

We hope that we will soon be able to conduct joint maneuvers with other nationalist organizations or nationalist units in the [Lebanese Army] brigades in order to confront the factional Army and Israel. The political, military, social, and economic battle is a long one. This battle requires unity of ranks, a single and united national administration, and the encirclement of the eastern areas from south to north to thwart the conspiracies and consolidate the boycott of the shah's regime. [passage omitted]

I know that conditions are difficult, particularly economic ones, and that they will become even more so. But we stood fast and won in the past and we will stand fast and win in the future. This small group of fighters that liberated the mountain, the southern suburb, the south, east of Sidon, and the Iqlim will continue along this road. Kamal Junblatt's party and army will remain the first and last support for the Arabists and nationalists in Lebanon. Thank you. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Israeli Governor's Headquarters Said Attacked

NC071701 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] The Lebanese National Resistance Front issued the following statement today, detailing the operation undertaken yesterday morning by resistance fighters against the headquarters of the Israeli military governor on Tall Zaghlah:

Early on the morning of 6 August, the heroes of the Lebanese National Resistance Front carried out an extensive and bold attack against the Zionist enemy. The Martyr Jamal Sati and Martyr Ghassan Kanafani groups attacked the headquarters of the Israeli military governor in the eastern sector in Tall Zaghlah in Hasbayya district. This is a fortified position housing the enemy command and a guard detachment; it is surrounded by barbed wire and high earthen barriers. There is a waiting room and a guard room at its southern entrance. On the northeastern side is a bunker where a 12.7-mm machinegun is positioned, together with floodlights and a military vehicle.

At 0230 on Thursday, the group began its advance toward the target. When they were only 25 meters from the main entrance, the resistance men surprised the guards and the four soldiers manning the 12.7-mm machinegun, attacking with rockets, hand grenades, and machineguns. The resistance men took control of the main entrance. They planted timed devices there, which exploded after they had withdrawn. The resistance men reported that they had seen seven enemy soldiers fall dead during the attack.

Israeli Helicopters Bombard Areas in South 8 Aug

NC081720 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Israeli helicopters attacked the Sribbin junction and the areas of Haris and Kafra with machineguns and 106-mm rockets at 1500 today.

In another development, a group of resistance fighters carried out a daring operation against an enemy position near Haris at 1730. Shortly afterward, enemy troops bombarded the villages of Haris and Kafra, causing material damage only.

Raid Al-Sultaniyah 9 Aug

NC091916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1902 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] A formation of Zionist enemy helicopters raided Al-Sultaniyah and its vicinity at 1800 today. Amal Movement gunmen confronted the enemy helcopters with the appropriate weapons during the 45-minute raid. Enemy helicopters were still flying over the town, as well as over Haddathah, Haris, Al-Ghanduriyah, and the Litani River, when this news bulletin was prepared. Eyewitnesses have reported that the enemy helicopters directed fire at residential areas in an attempt to cause confusion. Meanwhile, security sources have said that the enemy has brought armored cars into the area.

Resistance Warns Israel

NC101124 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] The faithful resistance has issued the following statement: After the Israeli enemy's acts of aggression against our unarmed kinsfolk and villages — the latest of which was against Al-Sultaniyah — one of our groups shelled some of the enemy villages and settlements inside occupied Palestine today with a number of long-range 122-mm rockets. Most of these hit their targets. We warn the enemy against continuing its aggressive acts against our unarmed people. We will retaliate deep within the enemy's residential and military areas of the occupied territories if it persists in its aggressive policy.

Hizballah, Palestinians Plan Amal-UNIFIL Friction

NC101214 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] According to Amal sources, leaders of the Amal Movement have obtained information about joint plans by Hizballah and Palestinian officials to create friction between Amal and UNIFIL in the south. By firing shells at Galilee and the security strip from areas in which UNIFIL personnel are stationed, Hizballah and the Palestinians hope to force UNIFIL to withdraw.

According to the same sources, Dawud Dawud, the Amal official in the south, is in touch with Israeli military officials to seek their cooperation in transporting Amal military supplies from Beirut to the south. Actually, some tanks and artillery pieces have already been transported from Al-Awza'i port to Al-Sarafand.

Opposition Group 'Crushed' in Border Incursion

LD071652 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] An extremist armed opposition group, led by Mullah Muhammad Hasan, attempted to cross the border to murder, plunder, and undertake sabotage. However, the group was crushed by the courageous and vigilant border forces.

According to a *Bakhtar* report, personnel from the Orgun border unit recently became aware of the evil intentions of extremist elements and called on the group in the (Qala-e Hayder) region to surrender. They asked it to give up fighting, bloodshed, and fratricide and to surrender to the border forces.

The report adds that the extremist elements, who had intended to enter the country on the instructions of their imperialist and reactionary masters, refused to surrender and instead opened fire on the border guards. The report notes that the courageous border guards acted to prevent the criminal activities of the extremists. As a result, the above group, including its ringleader and deputies Shadi and Na'em Agha, were crushed. The border forces also seized 84 light weapons, 19 rocket launchers with 50 rockets, 53 hand grenades, and a radio set.

'Extremist' Opposition Elements Fire Missiles

LD081656 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] According to a *Bakhtar* report, opposition extremist elements fired surface-to-surface missiles on the defenseless people in the villages of Arabkhana, Zargarkhana, and Afghan Kot and Meymaneh City in Faryab Province last night. A number of our compatriots were martyred or injured in the attack.

As a result of this barbarous action by extremist elements, the reports adds, 6 people, including women and children, were martyred and another 12 people, including children, women, and elders, were seriously injured.

The report notes that the injured people were taken to the [name indistinct] central hospital. Their condition has since improved a little.

4 Soviet-Kabul Aircraft Reportedly Shot Down

BK070232 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin claim to have shot down four military aircraft and five helicopter gunships in their operations during the first fortnight of last month. They also reportedly killed or wounded a large number of Soviet-Kabul troops in guerrilla operations.

According to a report, the mujahidin wiped out two security posts in Nangarhar Province recently. They killed 5 Soviet-Kabul soldiers and injured 18 others during an attack on the headquarters in Bamian Province.

Rebel Attacks Reportedly Produce 'Heavy' Losses

BK080632 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, mujahidin recently attacked a security post in the (Mehrejadid) area of Takhar Province, inflicting heavy loss of life and destruction of property to Soviet-Kabul forces. Fifteen Soviet-Kabul soldiers were also captured.

The mujahidin also attacked a security post in the Orgun area of Paktia Province. They carried out rocket attacks on another post at Towr Ghar near the (Zajai) cantonment, damaging many tanks and other vehicles.

35 'Guerrillas' Killed in Paktia Setting Ambush

BK091424 Hong Kong AFP in English 1415 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 9 (AFP) — Six pylons supporting two major power lines supplying Kabul have been destroyed by Afghan guerrillas, a news agency close to the rebels said in the Pakistani city of Peshawar Sunday.

The pylons 35 kilometres (22 miles) east of the capital were brought down Friday, the *Afghan Islamic Press Agency* (AIP) said, quoting a statement by a rebel leader in the region, Abdul Haq.

The lines connected Kabul to power stations at Sarubi and Naghlou, which supply the capital with nearly 70 percent of its electricity, the statement said, without saying what effects the action had in the city.

The AIP also reported Sunday that 35 guerrillas including a provincial commander were killed and 20 wounded while trying to set an ambush for government forces Tuesday [4 August] in the southeastern border province of Paktia.

The guerrillas planned to block the route of an Army column but were counter-attacked on four sides, the agency said.

Among the rebels who died was provincial commander Mullah Shah Addin, it said, adding that 25 government soldiers were also killed.

The official media in Kabul has reported the attack, saying a "group of extremists were wiped out by frontier guards when they tried to penetrate the country from Pakistan." It has given no further details.

USIS Calcutta Office Bombed in Anti-CIA Protest

BK091228 Hong Kong AFP in English 1225 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 9 (AFP) — Rampaging supporters of India's ruling Congress (I) Party hurled home-made bombs and stones at the United States Information Service (USIS) offices in Calcutta Sunday during an anti-CIA deonstration, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported.

Demonstrators shouting "CIA Quit India" turned violent as soon as Federal Commerce Minister Priya Ranjan Das Munshi, president of the local Congress (I) unit, had left after giving a speech at an anti-CIA rally, PTI said.

Police launched a baton-charge to disperse the protestors, who also stoned passing vehicles on the eastern port city's busy Esplanage area where the USIS offices are located. Windows of the USIS building rattled under the impact of the bomb blasts, PTI said, but no serious damage was reported. The protestors also burned an effigy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, PTI said. Several demonstrators were reportedly arrested.

The Congress (I) alleges that the Central Intelligence Agency is trying to topple the government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in an organised destabilisation campaign assisted by the country's opposition parties.

A Bombay-based pro-Soviet weekly recently published a letter purportedly from the late CIA chief William Casey to Edwin Feulner, president of the Heritage Foundation, which spoke of a conspiracy to "ignite an internal turmoil at the right time" in India.

The U.S. Embassy here has said the letter dated December 10, 1986, was a forgery, but Congress (I) Party leaders have used it to bolster charges that Washington is behind the domestic troubles currently plaguing Mr Gandhi. The prime minister has been hit in the past few months by a series of corruption scandals, several state election defeats and dissension within his party, and continues to face separatist campaigns and communal violence around the country.

Parliament To Appoint Committee To Study Bofors

BK061313 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Aug 87

[Text] The government motion on the appointment of a joint parliamentary committee on Bofors was adopted by the Lok Sabha [Lower House] with certain amendments. The defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, who moved the motion, told the House that the government has decided to accommodate the various suggestions made by the opposition in their draft motion sent to the prime minister earlier.

According to the modified motion, the proposed joint committee will consist of 30 members, 20 from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha [Upper House]. In the earlier motion it was proposed to have only 21 members, 14 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the other House. The members would be elected on the basis of proportional representation. The committee will enquire into the issues arising from the report of the Swedish National Audit Bureau relating to the Bofors contact to supply 155-mm howitzers to India.

Before adopting the government motion, the House rejected all the amendments moved by the opposition members. The entire opposition, barring the AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam], walked out of the House in protest against the speaker's refusal to allow them to speak on their amendments.

Gandhi Views Bofors Deal, Pact With Pakistan

BK080754 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that the opposition parties seem to be uninterested in finding out the truth regarding the Bofors issue. Speaking to newsmen at Hyderabad Airport this morning on his arrival from New Delhi, he said it was unfortunate that the opposition has decided to boycott the Joint Parliamentary Committee to investigate into the matter. The prime minister said that the government has accommodated almost every point the opposition wanted. He said the government wanted to investigate to the end and find out what had happened. He asserted that they had nothing to hide. He said talks will continue with the opposition as the motion has to be carried in the Rajya Sabha.

Referring to the drought situation in the country, the prime minister said fortunately there is enough buffer stocks of food grains. Fodder, water and employment will, however, pose a problem. He said no state will be discriminated against in getting financial assistance to tackle the situation.

Replying to a question on the proposal to have a no war pact with Pakistan on the lines of the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said India is willing to have a treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation with Pakistan if President Zia accepts it. He said a proposal has already been sent to Islamabad in this regard. [passage omitted]

Japanese Prime Minister Arrives on 1-Day Visit

BK100335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] The Japanese foreign minister, Mr Tadashi Kuranari, has said that his country wants to further strengthen bilateral cooperation with India. Mr Kuranari, who arrived in New Delhi last night, said that Japan wants to be a good partner of India in economic and other fields. He said Japan and India have a long tradition of friendly relations which have been further strengthened by the visits of the prime ministers of the two countries.

During his 1-day stay in the capital, Mr Kuranari will have talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and will also meet the finance minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, and the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Natwar Singh. Mr Kuranari will call on the president, Mr R. Venkataraman. Mr Kuranari is confident that the forthcoming celebrations of Japan month in India and the

Festival of India in Japan next year will strengthen mutual understanding. He will later leave for Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

Sees Increase in Economic Aid

BK100944 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] Japan is to provide increased economic assistance to India worth over $300 million. This was indicated by the visiting Japanese foreign minister, Mr Kuranari, during his talks with the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, in New Delhi today. Both the leaders had wide-ranging talks on international, bilateral and regional matters. Mr Natwar Singh is hosting a dinner in honor of the visiting dignitary tonight.

Head Sikh Priest To 'Retreat' From Politics

BK081352 Hong Kong AFP in English 1327 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Amritsar, Aug 8 (AFP) — The head priest of Sikhdom, Darshan Singh, Saturday announced that he was retreating from the political scene to pave the way for militants to run Sikh affairs.

The announcement of his "temporary" withdrawal from politics in the violence-plagued Punjab state came after Mr. Singh had come under intense criticism from extreme militants over a resolution passed in the Golden Temple here, Sikhdom's holiest shrine, on Tuesday.

The militants angrily rejected the resolution proposing a Sikh homeland within the Indian union as vague, and said they would fight on for their goal of a completely independent homeland or Khalistan — "land of the pure". They also warned that anyone negotiating for less than complete independence would "face punishment".

Mr. Singh told journalists he had not resigned his post as head priest, but was taking a long leave, or retreat, to keep himself "aloof" from the Sikh crisis and "give ample opportunity to the militants to deal with the crisis." He said he was retreating to "pave the way for militants to run the affairs of the Sikh." He denied his retreat was a "surrender" to the militants, and said "I don't want any conflict between the Akal Takht (the religious seat of the Sikh's) and the militants." "I gave the first chance to the youth to serve the community and to lead it in its religious and political struggle, but insult of the Akal Takht will not be tolerated," he said in a statement before his departure.

Professor Singh left with his family for his home town of Zakirpur for a long leave saying he did not know when he would return.

The departure of the head priest came as violence in Punjab escalated with the systematic execution of 13 villagers Friday, and three more deaths Saturday. Some 590 people have been killed in Punjab in violence related to the separatist struggle so far this year.

Opposition Party Expells 4 'Prominent' Leaders

BK080356 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] The Telugu Desam Party has expelled 92 members, including 4 prominent leaders. The party president, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, said those expelled include the chairman of the State Fisheries Development Corporation, Mr Saikyam Arjuna Rao; the president of the state Panchayat Raj Chamber, Mr Nallappu Reddy; and two former members of the Legislative Council, Mr M. Gangadharam; and Mr U. Sheshagiri Rao.

Mr Rama Rao said they were expelled for antiparty activities and indiscipline. He said the party will not tolerate defiance of his directives and issuing a press statement which were against the party's interests. He said the decision to expel them was taken unanimously by the Executive Committee at its meeting yesterday.

Tehran Cites REUTER on Supertanker Hitting Mine

LD101704 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 10 Aug 87

[Text] According to a *Reuter* dispatch, a Panamanian registered supertanker hit a mine in the Gulf of Oman today. The dispatch states that the supertanker was preparing to dock in Al-Fujayrah port, located in the UAE, when it hit a mine. The explosion caused a hole in the ship, resulting in some oil leakage.

IRGC Forces Launch 'Fath-9' in Al-Sulaymaniyah

LD090925 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0901 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] According to a report from Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular warfare of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], the joint forces have begun "Fath-9" operations with the sacred code of "O Prophet of God" in the Al-Sulaymaniyah Province of Iraq. Their goal is to extend the struggles of the oppressed Iraqi people and to continue guerrilla operations against bases of the Ba'thist army.

In the course of these operations, following the victorious activities of "Nasr-7" in the general region of Khurmal, heavy attacks and losses have been dealt to the Ba'thist Iraqi army.

Forces, Kurds Destroy Iraqi Bases

LD090930 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0910 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention. According to reports received from the general Khurmal region in the Al-Sulaymaniyah Province of Iraq, the active forces in the successful "Fath-9" operation -- the 75th Zaffar Brigade of the Ramadan Headquarters, the Peshmerga of the Democratic Party of Iraqi Kurdistan, the refugee Muslim Kurdish forces that recently emigrated to the Islamic Republic, and the struggling Kurdish Peshmerga of Iraq, Al-Sulaymaniyah branch -- succeeded in destroying all the bases of the Ba'thist enemy in the strategic Khurnavazan Heights overlooking the villages of Banishar and Yalantah in the first hours of their suprise attacks. They killed or injured the troops stationed there. Victory is from God and is at hand.

Irregular Forces Attack Heights

LD090932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0919 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners. During the "Fath-9" operations, the operational forces under the command of the Ramadan Headquarters -- the center for irregular warfare of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps -- launched surprise attacks on the bases of the Ba'thist army situated on Heights 1300, 1250, 1150, 1200, 1100, 1280, and 1500, southeast of the Al-Sulaymaniyah Province in Iraq. These operations killed and injured more than 100 enemy forces.

SAIRI Forces Attack Heights

LD090945 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0928 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear compatriots. According to reports received from Ramadan Headquarters, simultaneously with the operations of the fighters under the command of this headquarters in the Khurmal region, the forces of Imam Musa Kazem [seventh imam of the Shi'ites] -- peace be upon him -- of the 9th Badr Army Division, under the command of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq [SAIRI], inflicted substantial blows on the Ba'th army during an infiltration operation in the Al-Sulaymaniyah region.

During these operations on the Chwartah axis, the forces attacked enemy bases on Heights 1,500, 1,610, and 1,642, killing and wounding numerous enemy troops. In these guerrilla operations, the Muslim Iraqi Mojahedin set fire to or destroyed an ammunition dump and several light and heavy weapons around these bases. All forces returned to base safely.

Communique on 'Fath-9' Issued

LD091415 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] A communique by the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center for directing operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the start of the "Fath-9" operations was issued a few moments ago:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In response to the latest mischief perpetrated by the archsatan and its regional cronies and in reply to the Ba'thist Iraqi regime's destruction of villages and making Muslim Iraqi Kurds homeless, the joint forces under the command of the Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular warfare of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the "Fath-9" operations were launched in the general area of Khurmal in Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyah Province with the holy codename "O Prophet of God."

In order to ease and stabilize the expansion of the struggle of the oppressed Iraqi people against the regime ruling the country and to continue the successful "Nasr-7" operations, this operation involved the participation of the 75th Zafar Brigade from Ramadan Headquarters, Peshmergas belonging to the Iraqi Kurdish Democratic Party [KDP], refugee Muslim Kurdish forces who had recently sought refuge in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and struggling Iraqi Kurdish Peshmergas from the Al-Sulaymaniyah area.

The villages of (Ahmad Abad), Zalam, Yaramjah, (Khorrawaz-zan), (Bunchar), Mirgah Sur, and Amurah, as well as Heights 1,300, 1,250, 1,150, 1,200, 1,100, 1,280, and 1,500 deep within Iraqi territory, were the target of a surprise attack. All the enemy bases in this region were captured by the forces involved in the operation.

The city of Khurmal, the Khurmal-Sayyid Sadiq road -- used as a supply line to the front -- as well as the Khurmal-Halabjah road, came under observation and direct fire from the warriors of Islam.

In the course of these operations, the 106th (Al-Kabithe) Battalion was 100 percent destroyed and over 400 enemy personnel were either killed or wounded. Among the dead were members of the Iraqi Presidential Guard, who were in the region to crush the Kurdish strugglers. Dozens of enemy personnel were also captured. So far, 35 prisoners have been transferred behind the lines to areas under the control of the warriors.

During these victorious operations, a number of ammunition depots,as well as dozens of military vehicles belonging to the enemy, were destroyed and several others were captured by the warriors of Islam intact.

As a result of this operation, the defeated enemy attempted a number of counterattacks after regrouping. However, they were forced to retreat without any success. The warriors of Islam currently have complete control over the operational region from the border area to the eastern end of Khurmal city and are crushing any enemy movements with their heavy fire.

At the same time, in another area, the forces of Imam Musa Kazim, blessings be upon him, from the 9th Badr Division which is affiliated to the Supreme Assembly of Islamic Revolution of Iraq, carried out a number of infiltration operations in the Chuwartah area of Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyah Province. They attacked enemy positions located on Heights 1,610, 1,500, and 1,642, killing or wounding dozens of Iraqi Ba'thist army personnel.

During the operation, which was accompanied by artillery and heavy-weapons fire of the Iraqi Mojehidin against the concentration points of the Zionist enemy, an ammunition dump and a number of light and heavy weapons, as well as enemy foxholes and trenches, were set on fire or destroyed. The Muslim Iraqi Mojahedin returned to their bases safely after carrying out these successful operations.

Khamene'i Warns Foreign Ships on Hostile Intent

LD071821 Tehran IRNA in English 1814 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Bandar-e 'Abbas, Hormozgan Prov., Aug. 7, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i today warned that any foreign fleet which should try to create tension in the Persian Gulf will certainly suffer a blow.

On the arrival of a French warship in the Persian Gulf the president said "if this or other warships should choose to navigate in international waters without any hostile intent, no one will seek to do them any harm... otherwise an encounter is certain to happen at which the the French warship will be vulnerable."

Khamene'i, who was speaking to reporters aboard a warship after witnessing the final stages of "Shahadat" (martyrdom) sea war games, said the Mecca carnage was aimed at overshadowing U.S. defeats in the Persian Gulf.

The president asserted that the enemies of Islam conspired to counter Islamic ideology through the Persian Gulf issues and the massacre of hundreds of pilgrims, mostly Iranians, in Mecca. They wanted to deal a blow on Islam but suffered a blow themselves, he added. Islam and Muslims attained a victory in the Mecca carnage because of the blood of martyrs, President Khamene'i said.

Asked about when and how Iran will punish the aggressors, the president replied "when and where needed we will not restrict our biggest operational maneuvers...fortunately we have the least restrictions in the Persian Gulf whereas those interfering in the region have the most."

When Iran intends to counter any aggression of the enemies of the Islamic Revolution in the Persian Gulf, it will make use of its navy comprising those of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) and the army, as the strongest means, the president said.

In response to a question as to the power of IRGC's land-to-sea and surface-to-air missiles fired during the sea war games yesterday, the president described the land-to-sea missiles as one of the strongest of its kind and surface-to-air missiles as one of the most far-reaching ones in the world.

Further Details on Remarks

LD081033 Tehran IRNA in English 1021 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 8, IRNA — President Khamene'i said Friday that the aggressors will be punished when appropriate and "we will not limit our great war games." The president who also heads the Supreme Defense Council told reporters aboard a ship that the provocators are more vulnerable in the Persian Gulf and "we have the initiative."

On the presence of French fleet in the Persian Gulf waters SDC head also said that the French frigates or any similar ones are free in the international waters as long as they do not intend to disturb shipping or involve themselves in adventurism. But, the president said, if the (French) frigate like the U.S. warship, should attempt to create tension in the region and try to impose its rule, then "there will be clashes and she will be vulnerable."

President Khamene'i declared that Iran's Navy force comprising IRGC naval troops as well as Armed Forces is capable of confronting these frigates and 'any invasion' in the Persian Gulf although they enjoy modern technology and equipments. The president said hundreds of boats sailing as an integrated whole are far less vulnerable than a single frigate of a big power at the Persian Gulf.

In connection with the Mecca massacre of Iranian and non-Iranian Muslims the President said that the enemies of Islam failed to confront the Islamic ideology despite using the same tool employed by the deposed shah Iran in suppressing the peaceful demonstrations of Iranians before the 1979 Islamic revolution. The president said that the enemy wanted to deliver a blow but received one and the defeat of the U.S. in the Persian Gulf along with Mecca disaster offered an opportunity for Muslims and Islam to embrace victory.

The SDC head further said that the IRGC surface-to-air missile, test-fired Friday, is one of the most devastating long-range missiles in the world.

The president flew back to Tehran late Friday and was seen off by provincial civilian and military officials.

Returns to Tehran From Maneuvers

NC080520 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Supreme Defense Council chief, President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, left Bandar-e 'Abbas last night after the conclusion of the final stages of the massive "Martyrdom" maneuvers in the Persian Gulf region. He was seen off by the Islamic Revolution Guards' Corps commander, the Bandar-e 'Abbas Friday imam, the Hormozgan governor-general, and provincial officials. He arrived in Tehran at 2200 hours. [passage omitted]

Tehran Views Conclusion of 'Martyrdom' Maneuvers

LD081325 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1117 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Even as the Islamic fighters were capturing the enemy's well-fortified positions west of Maymak and were creating epics in their brave action to repel the Iraqi counterattacks, news from the blue waters of the Persian Gulf indicates that the last phase of the great "Martrydom" maneuvers was successfully completed last night. Armed with experiences gained from this glorious maneuver, our forces are now prepared to suppress decisively any kind of likely U.S. aggression in the Persian Gulf region. [passage omitted]

Hojjat-ol Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, said that the equipment used in the "Martrydom" maneuvers was the result of the creative work of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] and its technical and operational cadres. He also said that the land-to-sea missile fired at hypothetical targets is one of the rarest missiles of its kind in the world.

Before holding the "Martrydom" exercises, several reconnaissance operations carried out by the IRGC's speedboats revealed that U.S. vessels are vulnerable. In this regard, reports say that the speedboats of the IRGC navy several times approached three U.S. warships as they were escorting two Kuwaiti tankers close to the Iranian coast. They easily approached these vessels and returned to their bases after performing successful reconnaissance missions. These missions indicated that, despite the claims of U.S. military circles regarding the high technology of their warships and their claim that their warships can control the slightest movements, such claims were mere propaganda, as the U.S. warships have a great number of weaknesses.

Following the incident in which the giant oil tanker *Bridgeton* hit a mine, the United States suffered a big defeat. Because of its military impotence, the United States was forced to forget all propaganda aspects of escorting tankers when the return voyage of the second ship under escort — *Gas Prince* — was carried out. The United States was forced to observe all aspects of a clandestine operation as it escorted the *Gas Prince* out of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

Pointing out the increased military presence of France, Britain, and the United States in the region, informed military sources in London predict the possibility of an important event in the Persian Gulf. In European political circles, it is possible that the United States, Britain, and France may embark on a joint military attack against the Islamic Republic of Iran under the pretext of supporting the Saudi Kingdom. The same sources referred to the slaughter of the pilgrims of the house of God as a prelude to the joint U.S.-British-French plan to implement their military conspiracy against the Islamic Republic. [passage omitted]

These European circles add: Current developments and military movements by the United States, Britain, and France bring to mind the possibility of a movement similar to that carried out against Egypt in 1956. The conspiracy being hatched today under the guise of support for the Saudi Kingdom is similar to the plot which some 30 years ago was executed against the Egyptian Government of Al-Nasir and progressive Arab forces under the guise of supporting Israel.

The fighters of Islam have, through their performance in the "Martyrdom" maneuvers, given a suitable response to such likely mischiefs. By holding these glorious maneuvers they stress that they will stand at the frontiers of martyrdom in the Persian Gulf to respond to any possible mischief by the United States.

Musavi Says Gulf To Remain Dangerous for Shipping

LD091124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi by unidentified correspondent at conclusion of 9 August Cabinet session in Tehran — recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, the United States has recently been asking West European countries to help clear the Persian Gulf of mines. How successful do you think this operation will prove to be?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The United States is seeking trouble in the Persian Gulf. It is openly insisting on implementing its plans and programs aimed

at intimidating us or, as it claims, safeguarding its interests in the region. It will never achieve these objectives because it is confronting a country and an order which is using its creativity and familiarity with the region. The United States is openly taking these steps. The arrogant United States is requesting help from various countries. At any rate, these measures will completely weaken that arrogant system. They will contribute to further deteriorate U.S. prestige. They will demonstrate the weakness of a system facing an order fighting for its belief, for its independence, an order that wants to avoid interfering in the fate of other powers.

Consequently, these discussions could have several interpretations, one of which is a [words indistinct] military, which is least important. The question is whether the United States is capable of clearing the Persian Gulf of mines. As long as the superpowers intend to be present there, as long as they intend to act against the nations of the region, the Persian Gulf will be full of mines. It will remain a dangerous region for ships.

Regarding its military, this issue is not very important. Another interpretation of the present activities at the international level is the magnitude of the revolution and the resistance and steadfastness of a nation against an arrogant power. The United States is unwittingly publicizing our revolution. We are taking advantage of these moves at the international level to convey the voice of our innocence and legitimacy to the world.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Comments on Hostages, Shipping

AU091345 Paris AFP in English 1034 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Bonn, Aug 9 (AFP) — Iran will shut the Strait of Hormuz if it cannot export its oil through the Gulf, Iran's parliamentary speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the conservative daily *Die Welt* in an interview appearing Monday. He also accused West Germany of implicitly supporting the Iranian opposition Mojahedin group, and recalled that Iran had some influence in securing the release of two West German hostages in Lebanon.

"Currently, it is in our interest that the Strait of Hormuz remains open. Our position is very simple: If we cannot use the Persian Gulf for oil exports, we will close it — why shouldn't we?", he asked. "This is what we say: Either this Strait will be open to all, or closed to all", Iran's parliamentary head commented.

Commenting on the Mojahedin's activities in West Germany, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, "The Mojahedin, who are counter-revolutionaries, carry out terrorist propaganda in West Germany." "These groups take in money, and this money turns into bombs. I am not saying that the West German Government gives them money, but they can make money in West Germany", he went on.

Finally, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani indicated that Iran had influence over the abductors of two West German hostages, Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt, kidnapped in Lebanon last January. He said the two hostages were in Lebanon, and added: "We have found a contact with them". Referring to the hostage-takers, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: "Up to a certain point, these people listen to us". "I couldn't give a percentage to evaluate how far we are heard, but in certain cases, we are not without influence", he said.

Majlis Speaker Addresses Guards' Graduation

LD081424 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, ceremonies for the completion of the sixth-term training course of the Islamic Revolution Committee Guards were convened this morning in the presence of Hashemi-Rafsanjani at the Martyr Mostafa Khomeyni Base. The ceremony was also attended by the commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution Committee, several members of the imam's household, a number of commanders of the Islamic Revolution Committee, and several governmental and military officials.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, saluted the honorary units in the parade square. The ceremonies included swearing-in ceremonies, a parade of units, and military displays by the Guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee.

The commander in chief talked about the duties and sensitive missions of the Islamic Revolution Committees.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed his appreciation and thanks for the activities and operations of this revolutionary institution. He said: The value and credit of the Islamic Revolution Committee in the course of the 8 years of the revolutionary process have been impressive. Today we are witnessing these valuable achievements. Hashemi-Rafsanjani pointed to the extensive presence of the Ruhollah Division guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee Guards on the battlefronts and also the air unit of the Islamic Revolution Committee in supporting and protecting the sensitive regions of the operational sectors in the west and south of the country. He added: The Islamic Revolution Committee Guards, powerful and strong arms of this revolution, are struggling against cultural violations, narcotics smuggling, and smuggling of other contraband. In performing their valuable and important role, they have had a great impact on advancing the Islamic revolution.

In conclusion, Hashemi-Rafsanjani described the latest developments in the Persian Gulf. He stated that the true faith of the Guards and fighters of Islam constitutes an element of resistance and the supremacy of the forces of Islam in this unequal war. Prizes were later given to the honorary guards who had completed their courses.

Mohtashemi, Khatami Outline Response to 'Massacre'

LD081921 Tehran IRNA in English 1848 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 8, IRNA — Open support of the U.S., the Zionist regime, South Africa and other reactionary states for the Saudi crime in Mecca is a confirmation of U.S. and Zionist involvement in the pre-planned massacre of hajj pilgrims.

The remark was made by Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi in a live television program broadcast nationwide Friday where he spelled out Iran's response to the Saudi regime's bestiality. "Our first encounter will be against the U.S." which he said has relentlessly conspired to attack Islam and the Islamic revolution through all possible means.

The house of Al Sa'ud as a hireling of the U.S. and the Zionist regime would of course not only be punished but will be weeded out from the holy sanctuaries, which issue Hoj. Mohtashami said needs serious planning by Muslim nations and Islamic movements throughout the world.

Brushing aside Saudi claims that the incident started due to a clash between the police and Iranian pilgrims, the interior minister said it would have been impossible for Saudi police to resist against 150,000 Iranian basijis (pilgrims) if they wanted to react against the brutality. "Blood of Iran's martyred pilgrims would make the unity of the Islamic ummah bloom and bring down U.S. agents in most countries," he stressed.

Later in the program, Culture and Ershad-e Islami [Islamic guidance] Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami said the U.S. and its allies are under great pressure, that is why they commit such crazy acts in a bid to save themselves from what he called "a whirlpool of doom." Khatami noted that U.S. military intervention in the Persian Gulf and support for the crimes committed by its stooges are signs of its stupidity. Saudi rulers have exposed themselves to the revolutionary wrath of the Iranian nation by massacring hajj pilgrims in Mecca, he added.

Khatami said non-Iranian pilgrims in Mecca were mainly Sunni Muslims. He thought that their number was more than the 40 announced, saying that the Saudi regime has most probably hidden the bodies of a group of others.

Labor Minister Says Mecca Incident 'Turning Point'

LD090651 Tehran IRNA in English 0637 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9, IRNA — Iranian Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Abdol Qasim Sarhadizadeh in a message to his Saudi counterpart Saturday condemned the Mecca carnage and called for the formation of a board of Muslim theologians to minister to the affairs of the two holy cities Mecca and Medina.

The Iranian minister said that the massacre in Mecca of Iranian and non-Iranian pilgrims by Saudi police is a 'turning point' in the history of pilgrimage likely to 'culminate in a great revolution.'

Meanwhile the chairman of Iran's Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines 'Ali Naqi Khamushi [name and title as received] cabled a message to heads of chambers of commerce of Muslim countries Saturday requesting them to voice their deploration of the massacre of innocent pilgrims in Mecca.

On Friday July 31 Saudi police brutally attacked a peaceful rally of Iranian and non-Iranian hajj pilgrims slaying at least 400 people and injuring hundreds of others. Demonstrators in the rally were shouting slogans against the superpowers and calling for world unity of Muslims.

French, Jordanians, Moroccans Ordered 'Carnage'

LD081512 Tehran IRNA in English 1459 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Beirut, Aug. 8, IRNA — French, Jordanian and Moroccan military experts were involved in the 31 July massacre of pilgrims in Mecca by Saudi police, revealed a statement published by the Jazirat al-'Arab Islamic Revolution Organization here Friday.

The statement said that the slaughter of pilgrims around Allah's house by the Al Sa'ud dynasty submerged the Muslim world in sorrow and reveals how lackeys of the U.S. are continuing their efforts to eradicate Islam.

In order to perpetrate the Mecca carnage an operational headquarters had been set up under the direct supervision of Saudi Interior Minister Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and French, Moroccan and Jordanian experts had directly ordered and supervised the carnage of pilgrims, the statement disclosed. It also revealed that after the Mecca massacre, all Saudi security forces were put on full alert in order to suppress any popular movement in the cities and villages.

The statement quoted informed sources in Saudi Arabia as disclosing that there are many Afghan pilgrims among the wounded, hospitalized in Al-Ta'if, whose lives are at stake because they are denied treatment.

Elsewhere in the statement, the organization called on world public opinion and the Islamic ummah in particular to take necessary measures to free the Arabian peninsula including the holy sanctuaries from the control of U.S. mercenaries (Saudi rulers), because as long as the 'dependent' Saudi regime remains in power Muslims will not feel that they are secure to perform hajj pilgrimage.

Majlis Deputy Claims Saudi Harassment Continues

NC080641 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Excerpts] The first group of our country's pilgrims returned to our Islamic country this morning. Mr Khalkhali, Qom deputy in the Islamic Majlis, who was among the first pilgrims to return to the country, spoke to our correspondent on the events of the bloody Friday incident in Mecca. He said: As in previous years, the march was staged with the permission of the Saudi authorities. They tried to impose restrictions on the march at first, but Mr Karrubi [imam's hajj representative] overcame all obstacles. In the end the Saudis closed some of roads to the marchers, banning passage on those roads. If the Saudis had been opposed to the march, they would not have arranged such preliminaries or declared certain streets out of bounds.

Mr Khalkhali continued: After the march began and approached the (Jinn) Mosque, which has a metal bridge, they [Saudis] hurled stones and other objects at the marchers from a covered parking

lot. We saw with our own eyes that these included concrete blocks, blocks of ice, meter-long iron bars, wooden planks with nails, and stones. These were pelted at the heads and faces of groups of women and pilgrims to the house of God. Instead of carrying medicine and doctors, Saudi ambulances brought more rocks for the Saudis to throw at the marchers. Finally, they herded the marchers to a place where the pilgrims of the house of God were totally at their mercy. The Saudi police bore down on the marchers, clubbing old women and going on a rampage of killing. Saudi vehicles and ambulances blocked the marchers' path. Tear gas was fired at them, exacerbating the pain of their wounds. Jordanian and Palestinian pilgrims who assisted us were also injured in the melee. [passage omitted on slogans]

Mr Khalkhali stated: We have videotapes of the march which prove that the Saudis used firearms. More than 50,000 bullets were fired at the pilgrims. Even now they are creating problems and harassing the pilgrims and officials of the imam's mission [in Mecca]. He concluded: Mecca is brimming with troops and Omani and North Yemeni commandos who continue to harass the Iranian pilgrims.

Foreign Students Demonstrate at Saudi Embassy

LD071450 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] A number of non-Iranian teachers and students of the Qom religious seminary today staged a march in the streets around the embassy of the Saudi regime in Tehran. With their demonstration, they expressed their hatred and protest against the bloody Friday massacre of pilgrims of the house of God in holy Mecca.

According to IRNA, before noon today hundreds of religious learned men and students from Iraq, India, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and other Islamic coutries marched in areas close to the embassy of [Saudi Arabia] in Tehran. They shouted slogans condemning America and its reactionary agents in the region, and named America as the principal agent for the bloody Friday massacre in Mecca. The report states: The marchers intended to approach the Saudi Arabian Embassy, but were prevented by police security officials.

At the end of their march a resolution was read and they shouted the slogans "Death to the United States," and "Death to the house of Al Sa'ud." The marchers set fire to an effigy of Fahd. Their resolution condemned the attack by the executioners of the Saudi regime against the pilgrims of the holy house of God. The marchers announced: This inhuman conspiracy took place on the orders of the great satan, the criminal United States, and at the hand of the rulers of the Saudi regime. Therefore, it is the duty of the world's Muslims to try to liberate the holy shrines from the clutches of the rulers who are stooges of global arrogance.

One of the religious students taking part in the demonstrations gave an interview to an IRNA correspondent. He said: The bloody Friday crime in Mecca does not concern Iranians alone. This affair is the problem of the world's oppressed.

According to the report, after reading the resolution and while continuing to shout slogans, the demonstrators marched toward the Friday prayers site at Tehran University.

Oil Ministry Says No Crude Oil Allocation to France

LD092208 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
2030 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Following the remarks made by the French industry minister about the French oil companies' not buying Iran's oil, a spokesman for the Oil Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced on Sunday: These remarks will have no effect on Iran's oil exports. During the years after the victory of the Islamic revolution, France has never been one of the countries to purchase oil from the National Iranian Oil Company by signing a contract. Since the start of the current Christian year, the French oil companies have only purchased two consignments of oil from Iran. It is surprising that the French industry minister is ignorant of this fact.

This spokesman stressed: All the country's crude oil export quota for the current year has been sold by signing long-term contracts. There is no allocation for the sale of crude oil to France.

Aqazadeh Views Using Gas Pipeline for Oil Transfer

LD081234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] In order to sell all of Iran's oil export quota for the current year, long-term contracts have been signed. New clients may not be able to to purchase Iran's oil quota sales for the current year. This was announced by Oil Minister Aqazadeh in an interview with reporters. He added: Existing conditions have up to now helped stabilize the oil market and prices. Now both oil purchasers and members of OPEC are turning toward long-term contracts more than in the past. If no special circumstances occur and the quotas are precisely followed, the market will continue. For the next OPEC session, the ground will be prepared for an increase of up to $2-$3 in oil prices.

The oil minister said: OPEC members must learn a lesson from the past and refrain from cheating with regard to OPEC's decisions. This may cause a disruption in the oil market and a drop in prices. He added: In this respect — including Kuwait's violation of OPEC resolutions — contacts were made with a number of members. The chairman of the OPEC session will also be contacted. Mr Aqazadeh once again stressed the implementing of plans related to the diversity of Iran's oil export sources, such as the transfer of oil through the Strait of Hormuz.

The oil minister said: Talks have been held between Iran and the Soviet Union in order to use the gas pipeline of the Soviet Union and Iran for the daily transfer of 700,000 barrels of oil from Iran to the Black Sea. It has been arranged that a delegation of experts from the Soviet Union will come to Tehran before the end of August to conduct negotiations and to study the technical facilities related to this program. He said: If this arrangement is approved at the top level, the present pipeline used for transferring Iran's gas to the Soviet Union will be used to transfer, on a daily basis, 700,000 barrels of Iran's oil to Baku,

and from there to the Black Sea. After it has been delivered to Iran [as heard] in the Black Sea ports, this oil will be sold on foreign markets. He added: After the implementation of this project, a new pipeline will be laid, if necessary, to transfer oil from Iran to the Black Sea. The present pipeline will revert to being used for the export of gas.

The oil minister considered the fact that the French Industries Ministry has asked French companies not to purchase Iran's oil as unimportant and is part of France's method of creating an adverse climate. He stressed that a long time remains for the delivery of Iran's oil until the end of the Christian year.

He said: During the 7 months since the start of the current Christian year, only two consignments of oil were sold on the spot market to the French ELF and Total Companies. Iran has not allocated any place for France in its long-term contracts for its oil sales. France has no impact whatsoever on Iran's oil market.

The oil minister added: In order to allow people to stock winter fuel before the start of the cold season, 500 liters of paraffin oil will be distributed to households. The Oil Ministry's program now places a larger part of winter fuel at the disposal of people before winter. Until now, a ration of 200 liters of paraffin oil for winter stocks has been in force. However, rations will shortly be announced for obtaining 300 liters of parafffin oil for winter stocks.

In connection with the distribution of gasoline, the oil minister said: Under present conditions, coupons for 16 million liters of gasoline per day will be available, with 2 million liters available for the open market. Under present conditions this situation will continue.

In connection with violations concerning the distribution of fuel, the oil minister said: The governmental punishment codes related to gasoline products have been prepared by the Oil Ministry. All potential grounds for the violation of regulations governing the distribution of gasoline products, methods of identifying these instances, and the punishment of wrongdoers have been detailed. After these codes have been approved by the prime minister and announced, the Oil Ministry's inspectors will regularly inspect gas stations and other places where gasoline products are sold.

In connection with the implementation of gas supply projects within the country, Mr Aqazadeh stressed the implementation of programs already announced, such as the project for linking the gas pipelines and gas supply pipes of Neka, Rasht, and Azarbayjan. He said: The Oil Ministry this year will invest some 10 billion tumans on gas supplies.

He added: As for the people's welcoming the gas supply programs for the area south of Tehran, up to now 80 percent of those residing in announced localities have paid their subscription dues for their gas supplies. The Oil Ministry is committed to supplying them with gas connections. He expressed the hope that the rest of the people living in those announced areas of Tehran covered by gas supplies will take advantage of the opportunity to pay the amounts due, so that they can be provided with appropriate equipment for receiving gas.

Deputy Air Force Commander Killed in War

LD091618 Tehran IRNA in English 1532 GMT 9 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 9, IRNA — A funeral ceremony for Deputy Air Force Commander Major General 'Abbas Babai'e, martyred on the battlefields of the Iraqi-imposed war on Thursday, was held at the Air Force headquarters here this morning.

The body of the martyred major general, accompanied by an honor guard and a large number of mourning people, was carried through the streets of Tehran with a band playing mourning music and a helicopter showering flowers on the coffin and the people. The people chanted slogans such as "Death to the U.S." and "War, war until victory" during the ceremony. The body of the deputy air force commander was later transferred to his hometown, Qazvin in Zanjan Province, to be buried.

Iraqi Allegations of Shelling Border Towns Denied

LD081750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] The War Information Headquarters has strongly denied recent allegations by the Iraqi regime that Iran has been shelling several border towns in Iraq. Commenting on the allegations, a spokesman for the War Information Headquarters said that over the last 2 weeks, the rulers in Baghdad have been claiming in their military communiques that Iran has been shelling Iraqi border towns with long-range artillery. The Islamic combatants have not directed any firing on Iraqi towns. Therefore, all of Baghdad's claims are utterly baseless.

He said: We believe that the raising of these false allegations is aimed at preparing the ground for Iraq to embark on fresh adventures. He added: Should the Iraqi regime begin any kind of adventure, then Islamic fighters are quite ready to retaliate. He continued, saying: Iraqi artillery continue to shell Khorramshahr, Abadan, and several towns on our western border. He concluded his remarks by warning international bodies about any new Iraqi adventurism and crimes.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 2,921

LD071636 Tehran IRNA in English 1628 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA — At least 200 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and strategic heights Numbers 2379 and 3304 liberated in Sardasht operational theater, northwestern fronts, by Iranian combatants yesterday. Parts of the enemy positions, one vehicle-mounted 106 mm gun and one munitions dump were also destroyed.

Announcing the above here Friday, the 2921st Joint Staff communique reported that an Iraqi warplane was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in the western theater of Maymak at 06:56 GMT Thursday.

Iraqi warplanes violated the airspace of the Iranian border town of Sardasht, East Azarbayjan Province, at 06:20 GMT Friday

but were repelled by Iranian anti-aircraft fire without carrying out any bombing mission.

The Navy gunboats of the Islamic Republic intercepted and searched 13 cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Thursday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying cargo for Iraq.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the western and southern battlefields yesterday, killing or wounding 25 enemy soldiers and destroying one vehicle carrying ammunition and 10 gun emplacements of theirs.

An undetermined number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and two enemy vehicles, one munitions dump and several gun emplacements were destroyed in other parts of the warfronts in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim forces Thursday.

Iranian artillery fire forced Iraqi patrol convoys to flee in Sumar and Helaleh theaters, western fronts, yesterday.

In the southern fronts Thursday, Iraqi enginering operations were checked in Helaleh, Yebis and Nahr 'Anbar by Iranian artillery fire.

Iraqi vehicle columns sustained heavy losses in Sardasht, Helaleh and Kani-Sheykh theaters Thursday when shelled by Iranian artillery fire, the communique concluded.

Qal'at Dizah Residents To Evacuate

LD071711 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] A War Information Headquarters announcement has asked all persons who still remain inside the military town of Qal'at Dizah to evacuate as soon as possible.

The announcement added: Following the victorious "Nasr-7" operations and the advances made by Islamic fighters deep inside Iraqi territory, the enemy has stationed its artillery in the western part of Qal'at Dizah to fire against the Islamic forces.

In view of the probable damage from the Islamic forces' response to the enemy fire, all civilian residents of the military town of Qal'at Dizah who have not yet evacuated are requested to leave the town as soon as possible to avoid any unexpected damage and to save their lives.

Height 1,873 Captured

LD071721 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] The Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the command center for joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces, has announced that during the second phase of the "Nasr-7" operations the mighty men of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps were involved in fierce combat with the enemy forces last night and captured Height No 1,873 along the crest of Dopazah.

In the course of the operation, which was supported by artillery, more than 350 [enemy forces] were killed and injured while another group was captured. Many supplies and equipment, as well as a number of ammunition dumps, vehicles, and various types of enemy telecommunications equipment, were destroyed.

Iraqi Positions Totally Destroyed

LD071741 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] The Joint Staff of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] has announced that in the course of an attack launched by the IRGC, two posts of the Iraqi Ba'thist army along the (Hizar Qullah) range in the Marivan operational region were totally destroyed at 0200 this morning.

During the destruction of the two posts, more than 70 enemy forces were killed and injured while another group was captured. A number of light and semiheavy weapons, as well as a number of mortars, were destroyed or captured intact.

Peshmerga Capture Iraqi Bases

LD081251 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] According to a report by the Central News Unit, citing the Ramadan Headquarters, center for the irregular warfare of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Ground Forces, the Peshmerga of the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan attacked and captured 12 bases of the Zionist enemy in the Tawwakul region near Aqchalar in Iraq's Kirkuk Province. During these operations, four Zionist enemy troops were killed and five were captured. The rest of the enemy forces fled from the area. A number of RPG's and Kalashnikovs fell intact into the fighters' hands.

According to this report, the struggling Kurdish forces infiltrated Kuri village near the town of Salah al-Din in Tikkrit Province. They killed three military personnel. Two mercenaries of the Zionist regime, including 1st Lieutenant Muhammad Hasan Muhammad Khalaf from the 14th Battalion of Difa' al-Wajibat, were captured.

Iraq Fails To Retake Heights

LD081113 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit Report, the Joint Staff Headquarters of the three arms of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] has announced: At 0300 today the Zionist enemy, intent on recapturing the Bulfat series of heights taken in the victorious "Nasr-7" operations by the fighters of Islam, amassed its defeated forces, consisting of an infantry brigade backed by artillery fire, and started a weak attack.

Faced with the Islamic forces' alertness, their timely and heavy

artillery fire, and the fire of other units of the IRGC Ground Forces, all personnel of the enemy brigade were killed, wounded, or forced to flee from the operational sector.

During this Zionist enemy operation, all their equipment, including a number of mortar launchers, machineguns, RPG's and light weapons, were destroyed or captured by the forces of Islam. The heavy fire of Islam's forces burned and destroyed a large enemy ammunition dump. Smoke rising from the destruction of this dump covered the operational sector for hours.

Continuing their destruction of the Zionist enemy forces in these operations, the blasphemy-crushing fighters of Islam destroyed threebattalions of the 97th Infantry Brigade, a command battalion of the 24th Army Division, and two battalions of the mercenary "Defense of the Homeland" [Difa' al-Watani] forces of Iraq's Ba'thist armed forces. All their troops were killed, wounded or captured.

Communique No 2,922

LD081536 Tehran IRNA in English 1525 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 8, IRNA — An Iraqi battalion attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Maymak region, western fronts, early today suffered considerable casualties and losses and was forced to retreat by heavy Iranian artillery fire.

Announcing the above, the 2922nd Joint Staff communique reported here today that two Iraqi helicopters were hit and crashed west of Dopazah Heights in areas overlooking Sardasht operational theater, yesterday by Iranian anti-aircraft fire. A number of enemy soldiers were also killed and several bunkers and observation posts and two vehicles destroyed in Sardasht theater by Iranian artillery fire.

The artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants inflicted heavy casualties on several Iraqi patrol convoys which tried to infiltrate Iranian positions in Maymak yesterday, forcing them to flee.

A patrol convoy of Iranian Gendarmerie forces infiltrated Iraqi positions in Nowsud, western fronts, Friday, killing or wounding scores of enemy soldiers and destroying several gun emplacements and observation posts of theirs. A number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several enemy gun emplacements, two trucks and two munitions dumps destroyed in parts of the western fronts, in artillery duels with Iranian forces yesterday.

Parts of Iraqi positions were set ablaze and some enemy vehicles destroyed in Zobeydah and Bayat, southern fronts, Friday when shelled by Iranian Muslim combatants.

Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and searched two cargo ships in the Strait of Hormuz yesterday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied there was no Iraq-destined cargo aboard them, the communique concluded.

Peshawar Blast Claims Another Victim 7 Aug

BK071527 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Aug 87

[Text] A bomb blast at a shop on G.T. Road near Jinnah Park in Peshawar this morning killed 2 people and injured 36 others. One of those killed died at the scene, while the other succumbed to his injuries in the hospital. The wounded were rushed to Lady Reading Hospital where 16 were admitted. The rest were released after treatment. The condition of six of the injured remains serious.

Acting North West Frontier Province Chief Minister Mian Jamal Shah Kakakhel visited the hospital this afternoon and inquired about the condition of the injured. He directed the hospital authorities to provide the best medical facilities to the injured.

TIMES Criticizes Iran for Mecca Incidents

BK081010 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 4 Aug 87 p 4

[Editorial: "The Mecca Tragedy"]

[Text] The tragic incident in Mecca in which, according to the latest count, 402 people lost their lives, has cast a pall of gloom over the Muslim world. Hajj symbolises the basic unity of the world of Islam. It is an occasion for Muslims from various parts of the world to come together and demonstrate the supremacy of the bond of the faith of Islam over the peripheral considerations of race, colour and clime. The congregation is no less important for holding up Islam as the last message of peace, unity and salvation for mankind. It is against this that the Mecca incident appears all the more unfortunate. Hajj has traditionally been performed in an environment of peace and tranquillity and Mecca is looked upon as an abode of peace. That blood should have flowed in this sacred place and on the sacred occasion of hajj brings no credit to Islam and its adherents. The Mecca clashes further dent the image of the world of Islam in a state of turmoil.

Different and conflicting versions of the incident have been issued by Saudi Arabia and Iran. While Riyadh says that the Iranian demonstrators precipitated the violence and most of the casualties occurred in stampedes during unorganised retreats by the Iranians, Tehran has accused Saudi Arabia of being directly responsible for the deaths. The charges and counter-charges apart, it is clear that the demonstrations organised by Iranian pilgrims were the immediate cause of the tragedy. The Iranians have for the past several years tried to add a political dimension to their participation in the ritual of hajj. They have tried before to organise rallies during hajj, while the Saudi authorities have warned that they won't allow anyone to violate the sanctity of the occasion and put the security of the hajjis in jeopardy. In view of the clear-cut stand of the host government was it advisable to organise demonstrations particularly on the occasion of hajj when the slightest of unruly crowd movement resulting in stampedes can kill many? There has already been a strong reaction in Tehran where some employees of the Saudi Arabian Embassy have been kidnapped. The relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia would worsen after this and as a result tension in the region will increase. This certainly does not augur well for the prospects for peace in the Gulf. The world of Islam can only grieve over the latest tragedy and pray, as President Ziaul Haq has done, that Allah may grant the elements of Ummah [Islamic community] wisdom and sanity to demonstrate unity and solidarity in the face of the common enemies of Islam.

DAWN: Opposition Criticizes U.S. Aid Suspension

BK071123 Karachi DAWN in English 3 Aug 87 p 12

[Text] Karachi, Aug 2: Sardar Sher Baz Mazari, President, National Democratic Party [NDP] has said the country's dignity and self-respect which has been badly damaged in the past and more so since the impositon of Martial Law in July 1977 dictated that "we should not, regardless of the American pressure, be blackmailed into allowing our country to be turned into a subject State of the Pentagon."

"It is only those people whose expectations were high are disappointed over the suspension of the US military and economic assistance to Pakistan for three-and-a-half-month," he said while talking to PPI [*Pakistan Press International*] here on Sunday.

The NDP chief said: "We do not approve of any nuclear energy programme which means manufacture of nuclear device and paves the way for total destruction of mankind but by the same token this policy should be adopted internationally and no discrimination be shown in the case of Pakistan or any other country. We stand for the peaceful use of nuclear energy and should not allow any foreign interference in our policies of national interest," he added.

Mr Mazari said judging from the past records of the American administration's policy adopted in 1965 Indo-Pak War, in 1971 when the dismemberment of the country took place and the subsequent developments which harmed the interest of Pakistan, "We should ensure that in future we are not disillusioned by the high expectations of our rulers in their policy in gaining support from Washington to strengthen their grip on the destiny and future of our nation".

"The NDP right from the day of its formation has consistently demanded a positive non-aligned foreign policy with regard to the two superpowers", he added.

Mr Mazari returned here on Saturday night from Lahore after presiding over the two-day meeting of his party's national Working Committee held on July 30-31.

He said the NDP Secretary-General, Mr Farooq Qureshi, had handed over a letter on behalf of the party to Maulana Fazlur Rahman, Secretary-General, Jamiat-i-Ulema-i-Islam in Lahore on Sunday seeking certain clarifications regarding invitations being given to sitting members of the present unrepresentative parliament to attend the all parties conference (APC).

Jayewardene 'Concerned' About Sinhalese Extremism

BK080340 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Aug 87

[Text] President Jayewardene said that the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement to end the ethnic problem appears to be holding in the north and the east of the country. In an interview to the BBC, he expressed confidence that the peace agreement will be approved by the Sri Lankan Parliament despite opposition from some within his own party. He said his main concern now is the activities of the Sinhalese extremists in the south of the island.

Meanwhile, Tamil militants handed over more arms in the northern Jaffna peninsula yesterday. The peacekeeping force arrived in eastern Batticaloa town to facilitate handing over of arms by the militants. Barring a stray incident, the northern and eastern region remained peaceful.

Italy has hailed the Indo-Sri Lankan peace agreement. A statement released on behalf of the government by the Italian Embassy in New Delhi described the agreement as an encouraging development toward a correct solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

Prime Minister Comments on Accord, Reactions

BK091111 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
1058 GMT 9 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 09 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Prime Minister R. Premadasa told a large gathering at Mulleriyawo, a suburb in Colombo yesterday, that there was nothing to get excited against the "accord" to end terrorism in the north and the east, which had been entered into between President Jayewardene and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi as heads of the two governments they represent.

All the safeguards to test or check whether the accord is in the best interest of the country or not, or whether it is for the good or the detriment of the country, were provided in the Constitution.

He said "The moment I arrived in the country form my visit abroad, people were asking for my views on the accord I was rather embarrassed by it, because I am an ordinary citizen of this country and my only qualification is that I have honestly worked for the upliftment of the people of this country. Whatever, I have to say, I could well say in Parliament.

"But one thing I wish to say is that neither this government nor the Cabinet of ministers, nor President Jayewardene will adopt a course of action in violation of the rights and privileges enshrined in the Constitution of the country".

It was, therefore, futile for any section of the community to go about destroying public property, or causing harm to the people. The remedy for all ills, real or imagined, were available to the people under the Constitution. When they could also solve their problems by negotiation and discussion, why should they adopt the foolhardy course of destruction, he asked.

Mr Premadasa said that what he had stated at the earliest stages of terrorism, which some pundits at the time had thought it fit to pooh-pooh, had now come true. For instance, he had stated that there was a hidden foreign hand behind the terrorism which plagued the north and the east. As soon as that hand was withdrawn, the terrorists could not go on with their fell work.

He had also stated as part of the policy of the government, they would not negotiate for a settlement of the problem, unless the terrorists were also willing to lay down their arms. The terrorists were already surrendering their arms under the accord, although they had not yet surrendered all their weapons, he said.

The prime minister said that in the earlier constitutions, the privilege of questioning or discussing the great issues of the country was one which was given only to parliamentarians. It was the present constitution, promulgated by this government that, for the first time extended that privilege to all the people in the country.

He said, "This is our motherland. This country had once been exposed to the danger of being fragmented. But our forefathers fought against it and left to us a united, free, independent and sovereign country. It is our sacred duty to safeguard and protect it now and in the years to come."

After appealing to every section of the country to shun thoughts of violence and harm as means for achieving their ends, he also warned them against leaning on the advice of outside parties. Such outside advisers may tell them "Take the sword, destroy, kill. This is the only means of gaining your ends." But in time they will be ready to drop you like a hot potato.

The situation in the country also reminds me of a nursery story. A lion and a tiger fought over their same prey one day. The two of them tore at each other and destroyed themselves. Who got the prey at the end? It was the jackal which had been watching them from a safe distance.

"These little stories, always have a moral for us all. That is why such stories had been told."

Mr Premadasa was speaking at the National Children's Educational Foundation on the occasion of the visit by a number of Japanese Buddhist devotees who were sponsoring the nursery school and training complex at Mulleriyawa.

'First Batch' of Tamil Detainees Released 8 Aug

BK080942 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0928 GMT 8 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 08 (*Lanka Puwath*) — The first batch of 300 released Tamil detenues left Sri Lanka's southern port of Galle this morning for the ports at Kankesanthurai in Jaffna and Trincomalee in the east on board an Indian naval ship, a

spokesman for the Ministry of Defence told *Lanka Puwath*. He said that 700 more detenues whose release orders had also been signed would leave next Monday (August 10) for Jaffna and Trincomalee. They were from the Boosa and Palawatte detention camps.

The spokesman said these persons had been detained under the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the emergency regulations. A total of approximately 4000 prisoners, were being released.

Liberation Tigers Surrender Weapons in Districts

BK090736 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0708 GMT 9 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 09 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Surrendering of arms by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Vavuniya Districts and in Mankulam will take place today, the mass circulation English newspaper the *Sunday Observer* reported. The eight LTTE area leaders were taken by an Indian aircraft to their respective areas to organise the hand over, yesterday.

According to Jaffna sources these area leaders came to Jaffna to participate in the rally and other activities connected with the surrender. The delay in the hand over of weapons was due to their absence from their areas. The men flown back were J.C. (Vavuniya), Shajahan (Mannar), Mahattaya (Mullaitivu), Santhosam and Pulendran (Trincomalee), Aruna (Batticaloa), Mahadevan (Polonnaruwa), and Newton (Ampara).

Meanwhile, more arms were handed over in Jaffna yesterday.

At the start the LTTE handed over eight weapons to symbolise it to Col. Vijay Wimalaratna.

A conference to assess the situation was held at Wanni Army Headquarters, Vavuniya yesterday. It was attended by General Cyril Ranatunge, general officer commanding Joint Operation Command, Col. Vijay Wimalaratna, Major General Harkirat Singh, the officer commanding Indian peace-keeping troops and several senior officers of the Sri Lanka Army. General Ranatunge will be in Vavuniya to receive arms handed over in the district today. Deputy commander in the Northern Region Brig. Jerry Silva will be in Jaffna.

Civil Activities Resume in Jaffna, Other Areas

BK070951 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0908 GMT 7 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 7 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Civil activities have resumed in Jaffna, Trincomalee, Vavuniya and other areas of the north and east, the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation announced in its news bulletin this afternoon.

Public transport services had commenced in many areas. Reconstruction work has started on many damaged buildings. A large number of devotees are attending ceremonies at the Nallur temple. Arrangements have been made to purchase produce and distribute essential items to consumers in these areas. Business activities are also stimulated and official sources said that the state trading establishments and financial institutions will soon begin normal activities.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Rehabilitation had informed all government agents to provide information with regard to those who have been victims of terrorist activities. This will help the ministry in expediting the payments of compensation. The minister of rehabilitation activities Lionel Jayatilleke said that already compensation had been paid with regard to the deaths of many persons.

All facilities have been provided to resettle families who have had to leave their residences following terrorist activities. Every possible assistance will be given to them to reconstruct their homes. Measures will also be taken to help them obtain credit from banks on low interest rates.

The ministry will help in the rehabilitation of religious places of worship. It has been decided to help farmers to undertake cultivation.

Mr Jayatilleke further said that action will be taken to seek necessary additional funds for rehabilitation work.